

No 61,620

THE TIMES Tomorrow

20 years on
The condition of America's black population two decades after Martin Luther King said: "I have a dream..."

Two weeks off
Friday page reports on what children really think of the holidays their parents choose.

Winning ways
The image that means President Reagan will win a second term in 1984.

Losing touch
Are Canada's Liberals preparing to dump Prime Minister Trudeau?

Home thoughts...
How the Leicester Building Society discovered marketing with a capital "M".

...from abroad
The New Zealand tourists face England in the fourth Test; the European Swimming Championships in Rome.

Kidnappers kill leading protester

The owner of the Argentine magazine *Quidam*, Señor Guillermo Patrino Kelly, a leading human rights protester, was kidnapped here yesterday and later found dead, unofficial sources said. An underground group "Free Argentina" claimed responsibility.

Way clear for nuclear sell-off

The way is clear for the privatization of British Nuclear Fuels, according to Mr Con Alday, chairman of the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, which yesterday announced a £20m profit increase to £54.6m.

Coal warning

Sir Norman Siddall has warned Mr Ian MacGregor, his successor as coal board chairman, not to risk conflict with the miners by accelerating the industry's rundown.

Turks' poll limit

Only three parties can contest the Turkish election in November, after 14 others were excluded by the military regime of President Evren.

Mayfair sale

ETR, the engineering conglomerate which took over the Thomas Tilling group two months ago, is selling Tilling's Mayfair headquarters, Crews House. It is said to want £50m.

Polish release

Mr Wladyslaw Hardek, an underground leader of Solidarity who surrendered to the Polish police, was released after being questioned.

Aquino inquiry

President Marcos of the Philippines has announced that a special commission will investigate the assassination of Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader shot dead.

Scientific talks

The meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 4.

Essex prosper

Centuries by Gooch and McEwan put Essex in a commanding position against Worcestershire in the county championship yesterday. Report, page 18.

Leader page 11
Letters: On the Soviet challenge, from Dr George Ignatieff, and Mr Brian Thomas, youth training, from Mr Paul Lewis; Dartmoor spraying, from Lady Sayer.

Leading articles: Detention under Mental Health Acts; Soviet-US grain deal; Convertible cars features, pages 8, 10.

The poverty lobby looks for more public money; Russia's eternal queue; an MP campaigns against cancer; Spectrum: Profile of Sir Bernard Lovell.

Books, page 9
The latest children's books from young people, and from humour to computer books, reviewed by Brian Alderson, our children's books editor, and his team of reviewers.

Obituary, page 12
Mr P R C Elliott

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Rush for A-plates brings record August car sales

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The fiercest price war ever experienced in the British car market has led to sales in the first two-thirds of this month reaching a record 304,000 - well in excess of the total for the whole of August last year.

Sales for the month, boosted by the introduction of the "A" prefix registration plate and an estimated £50m in dealer incentives, are on target to break through the 350,000 mark, much higher than the most optimistic manufacturers were predicting a few months ago.

British car workers - and the Government - can also take heart from a significant drop in imports in the first 20 days of August and a startling 11 per cent fall in the market share captured by cars produced elsewhere in the European Community compared to the same period last year.

The danger for the industry is that the August boom may be

sucking in sales from the rest of the year and as a result the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders continues to be cautious about increasing its 1983 forecast of 1.7m sales, still lower than the previous annual record 1.72m of 1979.

The 20-day figure of 303,943 is 21.2 per cent higher than the same period a year ago. Cars made in Britain captured 32.78 per cent while imports, which were running at nearly 60 per cent in August 1982, have been cut back to 57.22 per cent. The Japanese share remained relatively depressed at 10.55 per cent.

The number of cars in the 20-day figure originating from within the EEC was 119,814, giving a share of 39.42 per cent against 50.41 per cent a year ago. This includes cars from the European factories of Ford and General Motors.

Ford took 30.1 per cent of the 20-day market followed by BL

with 19.1 per cent, and Vauxhall/Opel with 14.4 per cent. The continued success of Vauxhall, and in particular its Cavalier and Astra models, has given the company the prospect of achieving its goal of a 16 per cent market share two years earlier than planned, a spokesman said yesterday.

Vauxhall has sold 182,911 cars so far this year, 1,450 more than in the whole of 1982. Now it believes it will sell 250,000 in 1983, giving a market share of 15.5 per cent.

BL announced last night that it was raising the prices of most Austin Rover cars by 4.5 per cent from midnight on Sunday. The move, which follows Ford's decision to impose a 4.9 per cent rise from August 15, reflects manufacturers' growing unease at the impact on their finances of the cut-throat competition among dealers. Neither increase, however, will affect cars already in the showrooms.

Lowest exports this year put Britain in the red

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

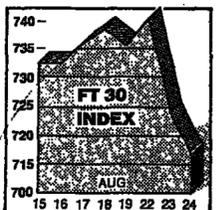
A sharp drop in exports to the lowest level since January pushed Britain's balance of payments unexpectedly into the red last month.

The fall in exports is bound to alarm the Government. With the consumer boom already showing signs of levelling off, ministers have been pinning their hopes on export-led growth to keep the economy moving ahead.

Officials said yesterday that it was too soon to judge whether the trend in exports was downwards this year. But the Department of Trade and Industry conceded that the volume of exports in the last three months was 3 per cent lower than the preceding three months.

Combined with a relatively modest rise in imports last month, the fall in exports left Britain's visible trade in deficit by £350m last month, compared with a revised surplus of £162m the previous month.

Including the estimated surplus of £250m on invisible trade, such as shipping and banking, the current account showed a deficit of £100m last month. That was about £250m worse than market expectations



Social Research. The index of the top shares fell 7.4 to 716.6 for a two-day fall of 23.8.

The poor July trade figures were affected by a lower surplus on oil trade and erratic items such as precious stones and aircraft.

Imports of £15,300m in the latest three months were 1.5 per cent higher in volume than the three months before, but the Department of Trade and Industry said the underlying level was stable after the sharp rise early in the year.

However, the trend in exports is more worrying. The fall of 7.5 per cent to £4,730m last month was broadly based, reflecting lower exports of semi-processed goods other than chemicals and lower oil and capital goods deliveries.

One bit of bright news for the Government was a prediction from Royal Bank of Scotland that it was heading for an unexpected £1,000m windfall from the North Sea.

Royal Bank said this year's Budget forecast of £8,000m in North Sea oil revenues was well short of the mark and the Government could now expect at least £9,000m.

Market Report, page 14
City Editor, page 15

Aviemore Centre for sale by Fraser

By Philip Robinson

The Aviemore Centre, Scotland's best known skiing resort, is for sale. The asking price is thought to be more than £3m.

The owner, the late Lord Fraser of Allander, founder of the stores group and father of the Glasgow businessman, Sir Hugh Fraser, who was once chairman of the company, said yesterday that it was for sale as part of a major group review of assets.

Aviemore, the company said, was not profitable enough. A Fraser spokesman added: "It has suffered the same fate as many other leisure places. But there is no question of our closing the centre. We have received some interested inquiries."

At the same time, Professor Roland Smith has rejected a 60 per cent pay rise and the job as full time chairman of the House of Fraser. But, it was announced last night, he will remain chairman on a part-time basis at £50,000 a year.

The two-year contract he has rejected, would have included £80,000 a year pay, a pension scheme share option rights, a car, a chauffeur and a house in London. It was fiercely opposed by Lord Fraser's biggest shareholder which has two representatives on the Fraser

board. The two sides have been locked in battle over whether to float off Harrods as a separate company.

Aviemore was opened in 1962 at a cost of £2.7m and was the idea of the late Lord Fraser of Allander, founder of the stores group and father of the Glasgow businessman, Sir Hugh Fraser, who was once chairman of the company.

But Mr Ian Henderson, a spokesman for the centre said yesterday: "We have had a superb summer following the best winter season for three years and the centre is bursting at the seams," he said.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lornho director, said: "The sale comes as a complete surprise to me. They seem to be selling everything, it's appalling."

Professor Smith was appointed as Fraser chairman in an attempt to stave off a takeover bid from Lornho. Its £220m offer two years ago was vetoed by the Monopolies Commission, after which Lornho promised the Government it would not increase its influence over the company.



Street riot: A Pakistani policeman firing tear gas grenades at stone-throwing demonstrators in the Chakiwara district of Karachi.

Terror in the streets of Pakistan

From Michael Hamlyn, Karachi

With tears running down her cheeks from the effect of a riot gas shell going off in her back yard, a grey-haired woman in pale blue *shalwar* and *kameez* - the Pakistani national dress of baggy trousers and long shirt - took off her sandle and walloped a policeman on the shoulder with it.

He seemed to be four times her size, twice as tall and twice as broad, and he shrugged her off. Other women in her family wailed and shouted. A young girl sobbed and showed off bloodstains on her flowered *kameez*.

A few minutes earlier the young woman had been prominent among a group of teenagers standing on the roof of the house, throwing stones at the police in the street below.

Now they were all protesting the brutality of the grey-shirted police, who had rushed the house and dragged the young people out to put a stop to the stone-throwing.

The incident was sparked off by the arrest of the man of the house, a former minister in the provincial government of Sind, Mr Ali Ahmed Sumro.

He attempted to lead off a procession calling for an end to the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq.

He was hurriedly dumped into the back of a police pick-up, where he was taken by a number of plain clothes police. He was shouting the white: "Down with Zia, down with Zia."

The area is in the Lysri district of Karachi and is a stronghold of the Pakistan People's Party, to which the former Prime Minister, Mr Bhutto, belonged. Sumro's arrest was the signal a great many people hanging around on street corners had been waiting for.

They picked up missiles from the crumbling surface of Kalri Road, and lobbed them at police. The police replied by throwing them back, and following up with tear gas.

The riot then followed the same pattern as a similar riot the day before in the Chakiwara district a few streets away. A game of hide and seek in the alleys and by-ways of the district ended with further arrests. Soon after dark both sides went home to supper.

The official death toll in Sind province yesterday was given as 21. Altogether, according to a government spokesman, 1,219 people have been arrested since the troubles began on Independence Day, August 14.

Elsewhere in the province small handfuls of men courted arrest on the tenth day of the campaign of civil disobedience called by the outlawed eight-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. There were no reports of large scale violence, although two major

worried", he said.
Continued on back page, col 6

Beith appeals for stronger Alliance

By Anthony Bervins, Political Correspondent

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Chief Whip, reacted to party infighting with a public assurance last night that party activists would "exercise the self-discipline which is needed to demonstrate that we are potentially the next Government".

But his statement, made on Channel 4's *News Comment*, was bound to be taken as an appeal for peace at the party's Conference, which starts on September 19.

Liberal and Social Democratic Party leaders are increasingly concerned that Liberal activists will erode Alliance credibility, built up at the general election with continued battles over policy and tactics.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has let it be known that he would resign if the party assembly voted to take away his right of veto over the contents of the general election manifesto, and he has shown marked impatience with MPs and others who have criticized his management of the election campaign.

Mr Beith made his indirect appeal for unity when he said: "The voters are expecting a lot of us." He said that Labour had excluded itself from the essential task of opposition to the Conservative Government by internal wrangling and total commitment to policies which would always be rejected by the voters.

Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

By Our Political Correspondent

Labour's deputy leadership contest, which is expected to end with a run-off between Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr Michael Meacher, could result in a "knife-edge victory for Mr Hattersley according to the latest issue of the *New Statesman*, published today.

An analysis by the Socialist Weekly concludes: "The deputy leadership election in October could be as close as 1981, when Denis Healey beat Tony Benn by less than 1 per cent."

But whereas a recent survey by *The Sunday Times* suggested Mr Meacher could beat Mr Hattersley by 11.6 per cent, the

New Statesman produces a "best guess" of a Meacher defeat by a slender 3.2 per cent margin.

Last night Mr Meacher said he regarded both surveys as "absurdly spurious" because some large unions and many constituency parties were balloting members.

He did, however comment on the *New Statesman* result: "That's a knife-edge. My best estimate is that the result will be between 40 per cent and 60 per cent - either way."

Interest is turning to the deputy leadership contest between Mr Meacher and Mr Hattersley by 11.6 per cent, the

Yachtsman knocked out by collision

By Rupert Morris

Mr Robin Knox-Johnston, aged 44, the former round-the-world yachtsman, was recovering yesterday from being knocked unconscious and having his racing catamaran badly damaged in a collision off the Spanish coast.

He and his wife Sue, who was taking part with him in the two-handed round-trip race between Plymouth and Vilamoura, Portugal, were rescued by a Spanish fishing boat.

Both were said to be in good health, and Mr Knox-Johnston spent much of the day attending to his damaged boat in the port of Coruna, near Corunna.

He said last night that he had felt the "tremendous blow", which he thought would turn the boat over. Then he was unconscious for between five and ten minutes. When he recovered they tried in vain to repair the mast and block holes in the bows.

"Eventually the bows went under the water and the boat became unstable. I got very worried", he said.

Continued on back page, col 6

The date the dinosaur died leads to sharp words

From Pearce Wright, British Association, Brighton

Almost every theory about the cause of the extinction of the dinosaur took a tumble yesterday when two of Britain's acknowledged authorities joined forces to rebut the 40 or so different hypotheses that claim to account for their disappearance.

In a joint attack, Dr Alan Charing, the dinosaur curator of the Natural History Museum in London, and Dr Beverley Halstead of the Departments of Geology and Zoology at Reading University, criticized "pseudo-experts who looked for immortality by trying to provide a simplistic explanation of what happened to the dinosaurs".

The presented evidence that

dinosaurs were alive and well at least 750,000 years after the various theories would have killed them off. The dinosaurs were not destroyed by the impact on the Earth 64 million years ago of a 15km wide asteroid, which was said to have caused dramatic changes in the climate.

They were not extinguished, according to Dr Charing and Dr Halstead, as another theory suggests, because the species suffered an epidemic of cataracts of the eye caused by an increase in the solar radiation or by a burst of radioactivity from the formation of a star. Advocates of the various propositions who came under the lash of Dr Charing and Dr Halstead were not journalists

or laymen speculating on a subject in which they were out of their depth, but were physicists, climatologists, chemists and other scientists who, in Dr Halstead's view, "seem to believe that only their discipline of science can provide the answer".

Dr Charing says the issue turns on whether or not the extinction was sudden, or an event which happened within 10,000 years. Their rejection of each theory had a rigorous analytical basis. For example, the idea of the asteroid impact, which created a dust veil in the atmosphere around the entire Earth, is based on the existence of an unusual level of iridium (rare in normal samples of the

Earth, but more common in meteorites) and of Osmium in samples of clay which come from geological strata that date from about 65 million years ago.

Dr Charing discounts the argument about iridium on the grounds that it is not the only geological strata with abnormalities in iridium content.

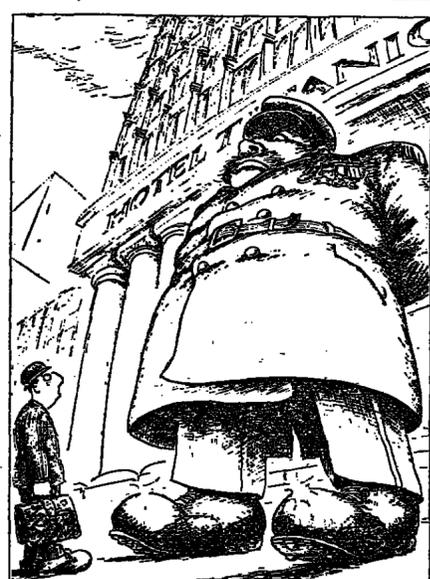
One of Dr Charing's upper cuts came in the form of the conclusions of a research study by one of his workers who went to inspect a site in Transylvania. It was the place where at the end of the last century an eccentric Hungarian, Baron Nopec, an energetic paleontologist, had uncovered some of the most important dinosaur finds in Europe.

Dr Charing's colleague brought a new vertebra to the Natural History Museum laboratory where it was found to have attached some fossils of molluscs belonging to a period later than the theoretical date of the demise of the dinosaur.

Dr Charing said the dinosaur did not become extinct suddenly but declined slowly. However, that still left the question - why?

The difference between Dr Charing and Dr Halstead and the "self-styled" experts under attack is, apparently, that they know that they do not know what happened to the dinosaur.

What is more, as Dr Halstead says, the continuing mystery keeps them in work.



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Police hunting men who assaulted boy lack vital computer software

Sussex police hunting for the three men who sexually assaulted a six-year-old boy in Brighton are having to sift through thousands of filing cards by hand because they do not have the right software to do it by computer.

The Sussex force has one of the most advanced computer systems in the country, but it does not have the programs needed for cross-referencing the information from the 300 telephone calls a day which it is receiving.

Details are being stored on filing cards in metal trays. A police spokesman said yesterday: "We have got a paper mountain of information in there but we have not got the software package and program that will run this sort of incident."

The police yesterday rejected suggestions that their inquiries are fishing.

Det Chief Insp Peter Whitehouse, who is heading the investigation, praised the cooperation of the press, the public and other police forces. "I am absolutely confident that we are going to catch them. I am convinced that somewhere in the system is information which is going to lead us to these three men," he said.

Criticism that failure to use computers to collate information is a considerable flaw in police handling of big incidents was made recently in a report by the Chief Inspector of Constabulary into the West Yorkshire police's handling of

the "Yorkshire Ripper" case.

Although there have been a number of initiatives designed to speed up the use of computers, the only active use in cases like that in Brighton has been in a pilot study carried out in Essex. Known as Major Incident Room Index and Action Management (Miriam), it is aimed at the sort of incident now being handled in Brighton.

Mr Whitehouse said that although computerization of the inquiry had been considered, "with about 2,500 telephone messages logged... it is going to take an awful lot of time to put them on the computer."

The police said that even if a computer retrieval system were available, it would have to be run in tandem with the present manual system.

The Home Office is monitoring the progress of the Brighton inquiry, which is believed to be the biggest in the Sussex force's history. Fifty officers on the case have followed up 900 of the calls so far received, referred another 100 to other forces and discarded about 1,500.

The police yesterday made a new appeal to two men aged between 50 and 60 seen talking to the assaulted boy and his twin brother shortly before he was abducted 12 days ago. The men, who are thought to live locally, are being asked to come forward as material witnesses.

Tape recordings of an anonymous telephone caller with a northern accent, who said that he was homosexual and knew

one of the attackers but was terrified to come forward, are being sent to police forces in the north of England.

The fact that the man has not come forward, despite repeated appeals, has led officers in charge of the investigation to conclude that he may have been a hoaxer.

Interpol have so far failed to identify a brown car with German number plates seen near where the boy was kidnapped.

A couple heard "screams of fear" from the open ground pinpointed as the likely scene of the attack on the boy but did not notify police until four days later, it was disclosed yesterday.

The couple, who have declined to be named, live next to Beacon Hill, the area of open downland used by joggers and horse riders, and where a t-shirt thought to belong to the boy was spotted.

The police said that they heard the screams at about 9.30pm on the evening of the attack. The wife looked out of a window and saw several people and a child walking along a footpath further up the hill.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has asked for a report from the Metropolitan Police on the activities of the Paedophile Information Exchange before considering demands that he ban the organization.

The report will be separate from the files submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions which involve consideration of the prosecution of individuals.



David Claridge with his puppet Roland Rat

Open challenge by Ford

Ford is launching its first convertible European car for more than 20 years, to exploit the new popularity of open-top motoring, exemplified by the success of Volkswagen's Golf Convertible (our Motoring Correspondent writes).

The Escort Cabriolet (above) based on Europe's best-selling car, is already in production and will be shown at the Frankfurt Motor Show, opening on September 14. It will be available with 1.3, 1.6 or 105bhp fuel injection engine. Prices are yet to be decided.

The Cabriolet is being assembled by Karmann, the German specialist coach-builders who also handle the Golf Convertible, which, since its launch in 1979, has achieved the status of a "cult" car, always in short supply although costing up to £2,000 more than closed versions.

Only 20,000 Golf Convertibles are made each year. It has been sold out in Britain for nearly a month and new supplies are not expected until the end of September.

Leading article, page 11

Lucan's tenant's to be sued for unpaid rent

Irish tenants of Lord Lucan who owe him or his estate an estimated £100,000 rent, unpaid since he vanished in 1974, are to be sued for the money.

Mr Michael Egan, a solicitor and agent for the Lucan family in Ireland, said that Courts, the bankers, had received permission from the High Court in London to deal with the affairs of the missing peer.

The decision means that about 1,200 householders in Castlebar, Co Mayo, may now be brought to court.



Big time beckons Roland Rat

TV-am's first and only successful puppet set his masters a familiar show business riddle yesterday: Will Roland Rat quit for the big time?

Mr David Claridge, the actor who introduces the rodent that pulled in the audiences who were not attracted by Anna Ford and her fellow stars, has received several offers to move his manager to other areas of the ITV network.

"There are lots of offers around and at the moment I have yet to discuss the future with TV-am," he said. "We are talking about a Roland Rat Christmas Special to be filmed in Switzerland, but we need to recruit more people to expand. I am just a one-man show at the moment," he added.

Legionnaire disease man dies

A man aged 23 who was a kidney transplant patient, died from legionnaire's disease and three other cases of the disease have been confirmed among patients at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. A fifth case is suspected.

Laboratory staff are checking the water supply at the hospital, which was opened in 1979. There was an outbreak of the disease there two years ago.

Mr John Kurtz, consultant biologist at the hospital, said he believed all the cases were isolated incidents and that the water system was not to blame. A hospital spokesman said the water supply is regularly inspected but confirmed that checks were being increased.

Legionnaire's disease, a condition with some similarities to pneumonia, is often contracted through bacteria in water supplies.

Murder attempt charges fail

A man was cleared yesterday of attempting to murder three people. Christopher Allen, aged 29, unemployed, of no fixed address, was sent in custody from Clerkenwell magistrates' court for trial on three charges of possessing a knife.

No evidence was offered on charges that he attempted to murder Mr Alfredo Albano, aged 61, Mrs Phyllis Waldren, aged 62, and Mrs Gloria Innis, aged 42, who were stabbed on London streets.

Biggest safety campaign opens

Britain's biggest home safety campaign, costing £100,000 and funded by the Manpower Services Commission, was opened in Gloucester yesterday by Mr David Clayer, the Health Education Council's director general.

Gloucestershire has been chosen for an experiment which may lead to a national drive to reduce home accidents.

Microcomputer shops in North

A national network of 12 high street microcomputer shops is to be set up by next spring by the Cheshire-based publishing group Europress, at the cost of £1m.

The Greater Manchester area has been chosen for the first three, which will be opened within the next two weeks.

Students fined

Two students, Helena Cunningham, aged 21, from Leeds, and Ian Wilson, aged 23, from Glasgow, were each fined £20 by Harrogate magistrates yesterday after being convicted of obstructing the Prime Minister's car in Harrogate in May.

Gypsy grant

City councillors have voted to give gypsies £500 to help finance a two-day festival in Peterborough, October, at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, where factory owners have been withholding rates in protest over illegal camping on industrial estates.

Miner injured

Paul Lynam aged 18, a miner, of Linty, Nottinghamshire, was critically ill with internal injuries after being trapped yesterday in a conveyor belt on an underground roadway at Babington Colliery, Nottingham.

Surfing along on the crest of a wave



Making waves: A competitor in the biggest surfing event in Europe, the Foster's Draught EuroPro, which began at Fistral Beach, Newquay, Cornwall, on Tuesday, goes through his paces. Forty-eight leading international professionals are competing in the world-class event for £20,000 (£13,330) prize money. The contest, which ends on Sunday, was won last year by Richard Cram, from Australia. (Photograph: Brian Harris)

Holidays in hotels most popular with children

The ideal holiday for children is a "push" hotel abroad where they can stay up late, according to a survey conducted by MORI for the travel firm, Thomas Cook, published yesterday.

It finds that children no longer want the traditional bucket and spade holiday by the seaside, self catering or camping holidays.

Only eight per cent of the 509 children aged between eight and 12 interviewed wanted to go on holiday in Britain. The favourite spot was North America, which won the approval of half the children.

But there were reservations about foreign food. Fish and chips, ice cream and hamburgers were the favourite foods of nine out of ten.

The children's ideas of holiday fun were simple. Top of the list was staying up late, with swimming in a pool a close second. Sun bathing and shopping were considered the most boring activities.

Parents were considered vital ingredients of a good holiday by 77 per cent of the youngsters. A boy aged eight said: "My dad's different... he mucks about and doesn't get as cross and if he does he just sort of taps you."

"Perhaps its time parents questioned the time-honoured theory that young children are not 'ready' for a holiday abroad, and are happier with what they know," Thomas Cooks marketing director, Mr Andrew Barrett, said.

Shoplifters' treatment defended

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Rejecting a suggestion that alleged shoplifters needed to be dealt with more humanely, a Home Office committee said yesterday that no evidence had emerged to suggest that innocent people were being convicted.

"We would accept that people who are sick, under stress or genuinely forgetful sometimes make mistakes when they are shopping," the committee's report said.

Cases in which the evidence concerning the intention to steal was inconclusive were filtered out primarily when the police decided whether to prosecute, the committee reported.

"A court cannot convict on a shoplifting charge unless it is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the goods were taken dishonestly rather than by inadvertence or forgetfulness," it added.

The suggestion dismissed by the committee advocated the introduction of a preliminary procedure before a court hearing, especially where the person concerned was ill or elderly and had no previous convictions.

In 1981 the police issued 47,443 cautions in shoplifting cases while 75,833 offenders were found guilty of the offence in magistrates' and crown courts.

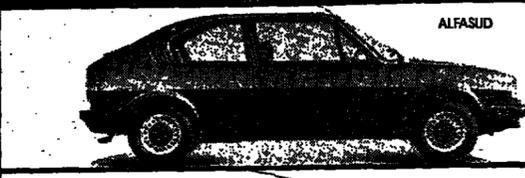
Shoplifting and Theft by Shop Staff - A review by the Home Office Standing Committee on Crime Prevention 1983. (Stationery Office, £2.75).

Mr Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, said that Mr Boothby had thought the case would be a waste of public money. The alleged theft involved a packet of batteries.

After being told that Mr Kenneth Boothby, assistant chief constable of Hampshire would be offering no evidence against a man accused of shoplifting, Judge Ian Starforth Hill said that he would be sending Mr Boothby a strongly worded letter expressing his anger that the case had been allowed to get to crown court before being dropped.



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*At participating dealers only. All prices correct at time of going to press and exclude delivery and number plates. Offer valid on all new Alfa Romeo models, except Alfa 33, registered by September 30th 1983. For details of your nearest dealer phone Hotline on 01-897 6958. Alfa Romeo (GB) Ltd, Geron Way, Edgware Road, London NW2 6LW.

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'Work' will transform schooling

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent
The new subject called 'work', now being taught in schools, could completely change the nature of state schooling by pushing yet more academic education out of state schools into the independent sector, according to Professor Samuel Eggleston, head of the education department at Keele University.

Earthquakes a risk in UK geologist says

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor
Britain is more vulnerable to earthquakes than most scientists recognize, according to Dr R. Muir Wood, a senior geologist with Principia Mechanical, consultant engineers, of London.



Space explorer: An artist's impression (left) of the Giotto Satellite which will photograph the nucleus of Halley's Comet in 1986 and gather information on the comet's coma region and tail. Right: Mr Steve Kellock with Giotto's British component, the Johnstone plasma analyzer, for which he is experiment manager (Photograph: John Voss).



Halley's comet to be 'met' in space

By Our Science Editor
Preparations are at an advanced stage for a scientific satellite which will make a close encounter with Halley's Comet in three years' time. The project, called the Giotto experiment, is to photograph the nucleus of the body, and take measurement of the particles of dust which boil off to form the comet's scimitar-shaped tail.

The human face of talking computers

Talking computers will soon have human faces as well as human speech. The stimulus comes from medical research to help people with impaired speech and hearing.

Deep crisis for Dutch spending

By Our Technology Correspondent
The Dutch welfare state, probably the most generous in the world, is in deep crisis, according to a professor of economics from Amsterdam University.

To understand the formation of a tail, scientists had to establish what the material is, and what the forces were which moved it away from the nucleus, and how it was made visible to us on Earth.

The second tail, the one which intrigues astronomers most, was formed by escaping gas. The gas molecules apparently left the surface of the comet at much higher velocities than the dust particles and were, therefore, scarcely affected by the radiation pressure which influenced the shape of the dust particles.

The scientists wanted to measure what happened when two very different plasmas, the solar wind and cometary gas, met. Dr Johnstone said.

Hattersley formula for equality

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent
Mr Roy Hattersley elaborated yesterday on what is becoming the favourite theme of his campaign for the Labour Party leadership - equality of outcome rather than equality of opportunity.

New hormones that could trigger a revolution

By Clive Cookson
Genetic engineering will have a revolutionary impact within a few years on a wide range of human activities - from breeding new strains of wheat to producing antibodies to help to extract the two halves of the world's supply of reserves that cannot be recovered with conventional technology.

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مركز الامن الاصل

Widow flies in for funeral

Aquino assassination inquiry ordered

Manila (Reuters) - President Marcos of the Philippines last night announced that a special commission would investigate the murder of Benigno Aquino.



Face in the crowd: Mrs Aquino arriving in Manila last night.

The President's announcement came as the opposition leader's widow, Corason, arrived from the United States with her son and four daughters for his funeral.

The presidential statement said the Government was offering a reward of about £30,000 for information leading to the arrest of the killer or killers.

Demands for an independent inquiry have come from the opposition in Parliament, notably from Mr Francisco Tatad, an independent opposition figure and President Marcos's Information Minister for 10 years.

The palace statement said the commission, headed by chief justice Enrique Fernandez and comprising four other Supreme Court judges, would be empowered to call witnesses and other evidence.

Shortly before the statement was issued, the Manila police chief, Major-General Prospero Olivias, said investigations had produced no clues to the identity of the alleged assassin.

shot dead at the airport by security men. He said police had been unable to trace ownership of the man's .357 magnum and it would take time to identify his fingerprints if he has a criminal record.

A US congressman said yesterday that President Reagan should not decide whether to go ahead with his planned trip to the Philippines until further information was available on the murder.

Mr Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House of Representatives subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific affairs, interrupted a tour of South-East Asia to return to Manila and express condolences to the widow and family of Mr Aquino, a personal friend.

Asked about a White House statement that Washington was not considering cancelling Mr Reagan's November visit because of the killing, he said: "It would be premature to make any final decision at this time until further information is made available on the murder."

In Tokyo, the Japanese journalist who claims Philippines security men shot Mr Aquino, said he may ask Colonel Gaddafi of Libya to help to establish his case.

Whitehall studying 'junta for trial' claim

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Western diplomats were last night studying a report that leading members of the Argentine Government during last year's Falklands conflict are likely to face trial.

The report, in the Buenos Aires Eronist newspaper La Voz, said this was the main recommendation of an official military inquiry set up after the Argentine defeat.

The first reaction of diplomats in Buenos Aires was to accept the report as genuine, but there was no confirmation last night in Whitehall, whose only contact with the Buenos Aires government is through a small interests section in the Swiss Embassy.

Not only General Leopoldo Galtieri and the other two members of the military junta, but also Señor Nisman Costa Mendez, the former Foreign Minister, and General Mario Benjamín Menéndez, who was appointed governor of the Falklands after the Argentine invasion, have been recommended for trial by the inquiry, according to the newspaper.

BUENOS AIRES: Military sources said recently that the inquiry had concluded that Argentina handled the conflict badly from the start to finish (Reuters reports).

Although the alleged report placed prime responsibility for the conduct of Argentina's diplomacy on the junta, it severely criticized Señor Costa Mendez for being short-sighted and rigid.

He was informed of the junta's intention to use force as an option for gaining control of the Falklands when he was appointed in December 1981.

He was told on March 23, 1982, 10 days in advance, that an invasion was going ahead, and he agreed to the plan on condition that Argentina's seizure of the islands should be used as the basis for a subsequent negotiated settlement with Britain.

He did not make the junta understand that Britain might well refuse to negotiate when faced with the completed military action.

It also blamed Señor Costa Mendez for failing to see that the United States would side with Britain in the conflict and for being too rigid in his interpretation of Argentine sovereignty in negotiations to try to avert a military clash with Britain.

Man in the news

Britain to lose a Senate friend

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The decision by Senator John Tower (Republican, Texas) not to seek reelection next year not only removes from the Senate an outspoken conservative and an ardent campaigner for increased military spending, but will also deprive Britain of one of its leading champions in the US Congress.

During the Falklands crisis last year Senator Tower was the first prominent figure in the United States to speak up openly in support of Britain.

At a time when the US was still trying to act as a mediator between Britain and Argentina, Senator Tower reminded the Reagan Administration of its obligations towards its closest ally. In the event, the US did come out in open support of Britain once the fighting started.

"Congress could have made life very difficult for us if it had



Mr Tower: Pinstripe suits and British cigarettes

than the son of an itinerant preacher who grew up in the lumber towns of eastern Texas. He favours pinstripe suits and British-made cigarettes and attributes his "global views" to the two years he spent as a graduate student at the London School of Economics in the early 1950s when, he notes, Britain still had an empire.

Senator Tower, who took over Lyndon Johnson's seat in the Senate 27 years ago, is the second most senior Republican in the Upper House and chairman of the Senate's key armed services committee. In this latter capacity he has fought hard to push through President Reagan's defence programme, particularly the controversial MX missile.

His decision not to stand again next year came as a surprise, although it has been noted that he faced a particularly tough fight in a state which by tradition is overwhelmingly Democratic.

Kohl firm despite poll on missiles

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl yesterday forcefully restated his Government's commitment to deploy new Nato missiles in West Germany and to stick to the planned timetable.

His statements, made in an interview with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, were published the day after the results of a poll which showed that three quarters of German people are opposed to the new missiles being deployed even if there is no agreement at the Geneva arms talks by the autumn.

The Chancellor said no one could doubt Bonn's determination to install missiles if there was no tangible result in Geneva by November.

"Even a conceivable interim agreement, which I still think is possible - and we will do everything to render our contribution - does not make a weapons mix dispensable", he added, underlining his firm rejection of a waiver of the Pershing 2 missiles.

He had reason to believe in "intensive negotiations" in the next round, and called on the Soviet Union to take the necessary steps now, including the dropping of the demand to include British and French missiles. It was only, he said, the "walk in the woods"

compromise - a suggestion that went down badly with the Americans.

His tough stand is intended to be the German reply to the Greek call for a delay of six months in the timetable for deployment. But the Chancellor must also be alarmed by the force of anti-nuclear sentiment in his own country, which was strikingly shown by a poll commissioned by the ZDF television channel in July.

This showed that 75.5 per cent of all West Germans are in favour of further negotiations and against deployment - an increase over the 62 per cent who opposed the missiles in an earlier poll. Even 61 per cent of Christian Democrats and 71 per cent of Free Democrats, whose parties constitute the Government, shared this view.

The Christian Democratic Union quickly questioned these results, saying the question was missing whether the West Germans wanted to go on being threatened by the Soviet SS20 missiles.

Meanwhile, a polling agency has confirmed that the US information agency has commissioned a poll in West Germany to find out whether Dr Kohl can push through the deployment issue at home.

Chemical weapons hope dashed

From Alan McGregor Geneva

High hopes for an early treaty prohibiting chemical weapons have been dashed as the 40-nation United Nations Disarmament Committee concludes its 1983 session.

The American assessment is one of meagre and disappointing results, with "an effective ban not much closer than it was a year ago".

While asserting that United States Congressional approval for the binary weapons production programme "kills those talks", the Russians are simultaneously urging much more intensive negotiations when the committee begins its 1984 session in early February.

The Russians contend that the Americans are excessively rigid on the crucial issue of verification, but the Russians have been very slow to follow up their acceptance last year of the concept of on-site inspection by clarifying what they have in mind.

Their intention of leaving many points to be settled at a later stage is anathema to the United States which wants verification procedure details clear cut.

Crucial day for Malta at Madrid conference

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Intensive contacts went on yesterday among delegations to the 35-nation European Security Review conference before today's crucial meeting set by Spain for Malta to drop its stubborn stand which has held up a concluding meeting at foreign ministers level early next month.

All the nations, except Malta, reached agreement on a final document on East-West relations on July 15. Malta has held out for greater attention to

Mediterranean security problems.

The centrepiece of this East-west gathering, the first since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979, would be the encounter between Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

A subsequent concluding session of the nearly three-year old meeting would be held separately.

Swiss Army chooses a German tank

From Our Correspondent, Geneva

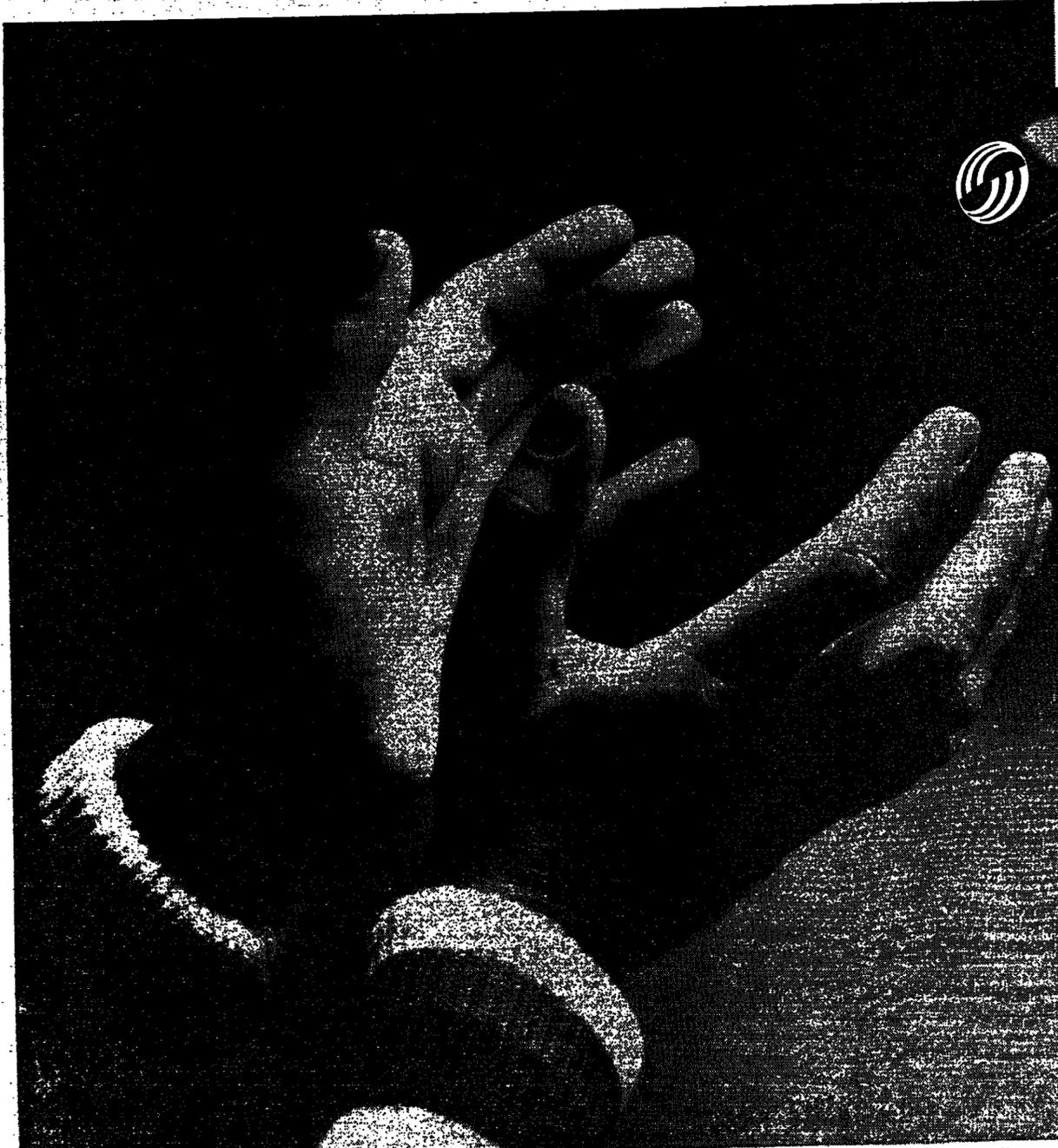
The Swiss Army's new combat tank is to be the West German Leopard 2. Not the American M1 Abrams. This decision was approved yesterday by the Swiss Cabinet.

2,500m Swiss franc (£796m) credit is being opened for a first series of 210, of which 35 will be imported direct from the manufacturers, Kraus Maffei, Munich and 175 will be constructed under licence in Switzerland.

This initial sum will also cover servicing and maintenance equipment for a further 210 tanks, built under licence. Deliveries will be spaced over 15 years.

Technical evaluation of the two tanks started more than two years ago, with two models of each under test.

The arrangement for manufacture under licence will give the West German tank a price advantage. The Leopard 2 was also judged to be more "technically mature".



One opportunity that must not slip through Britain's fingers.

Twenty-five years ago, Britain's civil aircraft industry led the world with programmes like the Comet and the Viscount.

The all-new Airbus A320, the world's most advanced jetliner, will give British industry the opportunity to demonstrate itself a leader once again.

The remarkable A320, on which Britain will stake its aerospace future, is currently under the microscope of many key airlines around the world. Alongside it are some American derivatives whose basic technology stretches back to the early sixties.

At least 6000 British high-tech workers conscious of their future consider this unequal comparison is hardly fair competition.



Turkish poll restricted to three parties at end of approval deadline

Only three parties will be able to contest the Turkish elections, set for November 6, because no others were able to meet the requirements of having by yesterday at least 30 approved founders and being organized in at least 34 of the 67 provinces.

The parties which qualified are the right-centre National List Democracy Party, headed by Mr Turgut Sunalp, a former General, and reputed to be enjoying the full backing of the ruling military, the conservative Motherland Party of former Deputy Prime Minister and economy chief Mr Turgut Ozal, and the Populist Party, which claims to represent the social democrats, headed by Mr Nezzet Calp, a former provincial governor.

The rest of the 14 parties established since last May to replace ones banned after the army coup in September 1980, were excluded. Among the excluded are the conservative Right Way Party and the social democrat Sodep. Both were left short of the required number of founders because of vetoes by the ruling National Security Council last Friday on the alternative names they had proposed, although they had easily organized in all the provinces.

From Rasit Gardilek, Ankara

Seen by the electorate as the true inheritors of the pre-coup Justice Party and the Republican People's Party, the Right Way and Sodep had been confidently claiming the support of 10 and 9 million voters respectively, which together nearly equals the total of 19.6 million Turks declared eligible to vote.

The latest vetoes elicited strong protests from the former Sodep leader, Mr Erdal Inonu and the Right Way chairman, Mr Yildirim Avci, but the poll and the form of government to follow would be anything but democratic.

The protest has prompted an investigation - which may lead to a prosecution - against Mr Inonu, son of Ismet Inonu the soldier and statesman.

The three parties allowed to enter the poll will compete for some 400 seats in a single-chamber Grand National Assembly to be elected for a five-year term. But candidates will also have to run the gauntlet of vetoes by the National Security Council. Parties will have to secure at least 10 per cent of the votes cast to be represented in Parliament.

The National Security Council and the Quasi-parliamentary Consultative Assembly will be

disbanded upon the inauguration of parliament, but President Kenan Evren, vested with sweeping powers by the new constitution adopted last November, will still have a dominant position above it for six more years.

The main contest is expected to be between the Nationalist Democracy Party, on whose ticket Mr Bulend Ulusu, the Prime Minister, and four ministers will run as independent candidates, and the Motherland Party, which is credited with rapidly-growing support.

Voting is compulsory, on pain of heavy fines. President Evren has been constantly warning people against the instructions of former politicians for them to cast blank votes.

The leader of the two main excluded parties have reacted calmly. Yesterday Mr Cezmi Kartay, the Sodep chairman, said exclusion of his party would not mean the cessation of its activities. A spokesman for the Right Way said a statement would be issued after a meeting of party executives.

Political observers expect the leading figures of both parties to run as independent candidates.

Iran settles debt to US bank

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Iran has paid \$419.5 (£280m) it owed to the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Treasury Department announced here.

It is the biggest debt settlement that Iran has made to American banks under the January 1981 agreement for the release of 52 American hostages held in Iran for 444 days.

As part of the hostages agreement, \$1,418m was put in a Bank of England escrow

account to cover settlements of claims of United States banks for loans to the pre-revolutionary Government of the Shah.

Iran has also settled claims of 19 other American commercial banks.

The 20 settlements have drawn down the escrow account by about \$895.9m.

In return for the latest payment, the federally supported Export-Import Bank has withdrawn claims pending at an

Iran-US claims tribunal, which was established under the hostages agreement.

The Treasury announcement said that the Export-Import Bank would receive \$419.5m in payment on its non-syndicated debt claims against Iran.

The announcement also said that other US banks have been meeting Bank Markazi representatives in London and were in the process of negotiating their respective claims



Dressed to kill: Lieutenant-General Abdul-Halim Abu Ghazala, the Egyptian Defence Minister, left, and US Lieutenant-General Robert Kingston reviewing joint manoeuvres yesterday in the Western Desert.

Nightmare stops an airliner

Ankara (AFP) - A West German passenger forced a Turkish airliner to return to Istanbul shortly after take-off on Tuesday when he apparently awoke from a nap and mistook a nightmare for reality, the newspaper *Express* reported.

Herr Wolfgang Stroppe, from Munich, leapt out of his seat, shouting there was a bomb on the aircraft, which returned to Yesilkoy airport.

A search of the suitcase to which Herr Stroppe pointed revealed not a bomb but a bottle of raki, a potent local liquor. He said he had fallen asleep before take-off and dreamt that a bomb was hidden in the suitcase and woke up shouting in terror.

He was arrested and an investigation has been opened by the authorities.

Top man's surrender blow to Solidarity

Warsaw (Reuters, AP) - The Polish Authorities yesterday questioned Mr Wladyslaw Hardek, a leading figure in the Solidarity underground whose decision to surrender to police was the biggest setback yet to the banned trade union.

His appearance on state television on Tuesday night, reading a statement renouncing further underground activity as pointless, raised questions about the future of the struggle by activists in hiding to promote the ideals of the movement.

It was clearly a blow to opposition morale and followed a weak response to a call for a go-slow as part of protests marking the third anniversary of the strikes and agreements that led to the birth of the union in 1980.

Official sources in Cracow, where Mr Hardek operated as the regional underground leader, said he was interviewed at the military prosecutor's office. He reported to police earlier this week.

They believed he would be freed soon under the terms of an amnesty declared when martial law was lifted last month, offering activists freedom from prosecution if they surrendered and made statements of their offences.

Solidarity figures in Warsaw speculated that Mr Hardek may have been captured by the authorities and threatened with a stiff jail term if he refused to announce his "surrender."

Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of Solidarity, questioned about Mr Hardek as he left the Gdansk shipyard, said, "I don't speculate about things like that. I am just not going to talk about it."

BAOR men accused of armed robbery

Bonn - Three soldiers from the First Battalion the Irish Guards are being held in British military custody in Munster after being arrested by German police on charges of armed robbery. (Michael Binyon writes)

The three men, whose names have not been given, are alleged to have raided a petrol station on June 30 using British Army Sterling sub-machine guns, and stolen cigarettes, sweets and DM 2,000 (£300) in cash. They were said to have been caught after fleeing in a car which then crashed.

A spokesman for the British Army of the Rhine said a military investigation was now complete, and the Army was waiting to see whether the West German authorities would waive their jurisdiction.

Sinatra sues

Las Vegas (Reuters) - Frank Sinatra is seeking \$10m (£6.6m) damages from a nightclub here called "Sinatras", alleging that the owners, the brothers Duane, Dennis and Paul Sinatra, misappropriated his name and were trying to mislead the public. The singer has a new contract to perform exclusively at an hotel and casino three blocks away.

Kidnapped

Napoli (Reuters) - Two Soviet technicians have been killed and 24 kidnapped in Mozambique in the continuing harassment of foreign aid specialists by opponents of the Mozambique Government. A number of Mozambicans were also seized in the raid on a tantalite mine at Morras. Soviet sources said.

Mafia dug in

Rome (Reuters) - It will be the year 2000 before the Mafia is defeated, Signor Emanuele De Francesco, the special commissioner charged with fighting the criminal network, said in an interview. The Mafia mentality remained "deeply entrenched and had to be tackled in schools, but this would take time."

Nevis in step

Basseterre (Reuters) - The coalition Government of the St Kitts-Nevis Prime Minister, Mr Kennedy Simmonds, made a clean sweep of all five seats in a new legislative assembly to handle affairs on the smaller island of Nevis after the twin-island state gains independence on September 19.

A-waste block

Brussels (Reuters) - Belgium and Switzerland have suspended indefinitely the disposal of 3,700 tonnes of radioactive waste in the Atlantic because of a dumping boycott by British seamen. The British company under contract cannot raise a crew.

Shagari victory

Lagos (AFP) - President Shagari's National Party of Nigeria has won 55 of the 85 federal Senate seats contested last Saturday. Voting for the remaining 11 seats was put off because of violence or electoral irregularities.

Queen foiled

Johannesburg - Judgment in an application to the Swaziland High Court by Queen Dzedzwe to make her dismissal as Queen Regent declared illegal was withheld after a proclamation that royal affairs were beyond the prerogative of the courts.

Children killed

Cologne (Reuters) - Eight people, including five children, died and five others were injured in a three-car crash near Cologne on Tuesday night. A tyre on one of the vehicles burst.

Nepal epidemic

Katmandu (AP) - Twenty-four more people have died of gastro-enteritis in Nepal, bringing the number of deaths from the disease to 95 in the past two weeks. Doctors have been sent to affected areas to deal with the epidemic, which is spreading.

School falls

Taipei (Reuters) - Twenty-two students were killed and 63 injured when a school at Feng Yuan, 100 miles south of Taipei, collapsed during opening ceremonies for the new term. Rescue workers feared more bodies might be found.

Drugs arrest

Amsterdam (AFP) - Police arrested a 31-year-old Londoner, identified only by his initials "LRS", in connection with a narcotics haul in central Amsterdam earlier this week in which 770 lb of hashish were seized.

Catalan JR

Barcelona (AD) - From mid-September the American television series *Dallas* is to be shown throughout Catalonia dubbed in Catalan. Spaniards who do not speak this regional language will be out of luck.

Suicide note reveals Nazi's fear

Bonn (Reuters) - A former Nazi officer poisoned himself because he could not face being tried for the deaths of hundreds of French Jews, according to a suicide note. A spokesman for the Bonn State District Court said yesterday that Richard-Whitman Freise, aged 74, claimed that he had been a tool under orders and knew nothing of the annihilation of the Jews until after the war.

Herr Freise, an SS officer had been charged with being an accessory to the murder of 1,372 Jews.

Three other SS officers, Walter Nachrich, aged 74; Modest Graf Korff, aged 73; and Rolf Bilharz, aged 74, have been accused of aiding in the murder of 75,000 French Jews who were deported between March 1942 and 1944. They are due to stand trial in October.

● Gypsies gassed: A retired West German medical director, Helmut Ruzh, aged 63, has been charged with being an accessory to the murder of gypsies exposed to experimental war gases in the Nazi concentration camp of Natzweiler, Alsace in 1944.

● BOSTON: A US lawyer said here that the accused Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie worked for the intelligence services of several countries apart from the United States after the Second World War (Reuters reports). Mr John Loftis, who prosecuted Nazis in the US Justice Department refused to identify them.



Life for French troops at Salai is so tough they will have to be rotated, to prevent mental problems, an Italian journalist says.

● PARIS: France wants a peaceful settlement to the crisis but this implies a position of strength in the field, our government spokesman, M Max Gallo, said here (AFP reports). He added that above all Chad was an African affair and it was up to the Africans to resolve it, perhaps within the Organization of African Unity.

● NAIROBI: M Maurice Fauré, chairman of the French National Assembly's foreign affairs committee, arrived in Addis Ababa with a message from president Mitterrand on the crisis for Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian leader and current OAU chairman (AFP reports).

UN chief pays flying visit to Namibia

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Talks on the independence of Namibia ended abruptly in Cape Town yesterday as Señor Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary-general, made a surprise change of schedule in order to visit the "front-line".

He flew to Ruscana, a settlement at the western tip of the Ovambo homeland facing the southern Angolan border and one of the primary battle zones in the bush war between South African troops and guerrillas of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO).

He will today fly to Windhoek, the Namibian capital, for a final round of talks with national political party leaders. No reason was given yesterday for his change of plan nor any details about whom he would meet on the border.

At the end of the Cape Town talks, Señor Pérez de Cuellar said substantial progress had been made on outstanding issues. But Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, emphasized it had been made clear that South Africa would not agree to the United Nations settlement plan without a clear agreement on Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

Mr Botha said that the Cuban issue was not within the mandate of the Secretary-General, who has to report to the Security Council by August 31 on progress towards settling

Referendum date

South Africa's white voters will be asked in a referendum on November 2 whether they favour the constitutional reform plan which will give Coloureds (mixed race) and Asians - but not black - a limited share of power.

Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, told Parliament in Cape Town yesterday that discussions would continue with Coloured and Asian leaders about a "subtle opportunity" to test the opinions of their communities.

the United Nations' longest-running dispute.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar said: "Unfortunately, I am still not in a position to indicate a date for implementation, since issues outside the scope of my Security Council mandate remain unresolved."

He said he had come to South Africa mainly to discuss problems relating to the electoral system and the composition of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (Untag), and these had been resolved. "The Cuban problem is a problem on its own," he said.

At a separate press conference, Mr Botha said: "As far as South Africa is concerned, we have resolved all the outstanding issues within the framework of understandings reached with the United States and the Western five contact group."



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دكان من الاصل

Knight of the stars

moreover... Miles Kington

More lines on parking

The story so far: Seamus Daly, car-hire millionaire and would-be broadcaster, is accused of removing a double yellow line in order to park without charge. He denies the charge stoutly, as who wouldn't. Now read on. You never know it might happen to you.

Counsel: Mr Daly, the court has heard the police witness describe how the whole street was covered in a double yellow line. It has also heard you say that there was a gap in the double yellow line large enough for you to park in. Who do you honestly expect the court to believe, you or the police?

Defendant: Me.

Counsel: Yes, well, fair enough. Still, I think you ought to offer some explanation of this gap in the yellow line, don't you?

Defendant: It strikes me that so far the court has concentrated entirely on the absence of a double yellow line beneath my car, and has assumed that because it wasn't there, it must have been removed.

Judge: What other possible explanation is there?

Defendant: There is another theory that has not even been considered by the court so far, and that is that the yellow line was there all the time - but was not visible!

Counsel: Could you explain that?

Defendant: There is nothing easier than to buy a roll of black sticky tape and to spread it out over the double yellow line in such a way that it entirely covers the paint and looks like a bit of road, potholes and all.

Counsel: So that's what you did!

Judge: So that's the way it was!

Defendant: Not at all. You merely asked me for another explanation and I have given you one. I neither removed the yellow line nor covered it up. However, there is yet another theory...

Judge: Great stuff! I love theories. It's facts I can't handle.

Defendant: I would like to call a witness.

Judge: Defendants can't call witnesses, not if they're already in the witness stand.

Defendant: We can in Ireland. Call William Carstairs! (After a bit of shuffling, Mr Carstairs sits on to the witness stand with the defendant.) You are William Carstairs, a road-painter?

Carstairs: I was then.

Defendant: When?

Carstairs: In 1980, the year you are going to ask me about when I painted Sears Roebuck Road end to end with a double yellow line.

Defendant: Could you tell the court how you arrived at your work?

Carstairs: I drove there.

Defendant: And where did you leave your car?

Carstairs: In Sears Roebuck Road, of course. It was the only free street for miles.

Defendant: Did you paint yellow lines under your car?

Carstairs: No, I left it till later, so that when I moved the car - oh, blamey! You're right! I forgot to go back and paint that bit. Stone me!

Defendant: And there, gentlemen of the jury, you have it. The yellow lines were never there in the first place. In fact, I myself went back the next day and painted the lines in, voluntarily. Along all the yellow lines in London, that short stretch is not the property of the Metropolitan Police, it belongs to me.

Judge: If I have got this straight, a man stands here accused of taking something which was never there, and even if it had been there, it would have been his own property. Who says that British justice is not the most wonderful in the world? Case dismissed!

Clerk: My Lord, we have just had a message from the outside world. It's from the BBC, and they say that one of their employees, a Mr Henry Kelly, is not feeling well. They ask if the defendant is free to stand by to replace him...

Defendant: Lord be praised! It's my big break! Hallelujah!

(Readers who like happy endings may be interested to know that the Seamus Daly Show will be one of the BBC's big autumn offerings.)

The walls of the observing room at Jodrell Bank are made up of banks of amplifiers, cables and computers, which analyse and record the signals picked up by the big dish. It was here, last thing at night for his three decades as director of the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories, that Sir Bernard Lovell would end his day, checking on the work in progress, offering advice and encouragement to the few remaining staff.

And it is Jodrell Bank which is Lovell's most tangible achievement and the most obvious evidence of his position as a major figure in international astronomy.

Born in Gloucestershire, Lovell graduated from Bristol university and in 1936 became assistant lecturer in physics at Manchester university, where he came under the considerable influence of Professor Patrick Blackett.

Lovell's early research was with cosmic rays, the nuclei of atoms which hurtle through space. But like many other academics of his time he soon became involved in the development of radar (radio detection and range). On September 3, 1939, the day that Chamberlain broadcast the news that Britain was at war, Lovell was working in the operations room of an early warning station at Saxton Wold in Yorkshire.

He was part of a team developing radar for airborne interception (AI), enabling night fighters to locate enemy aircraft and manoeuvre within visual range. It was through working with radar during the war that Lovell also became familiar with the experimental problems of working with radio waves.

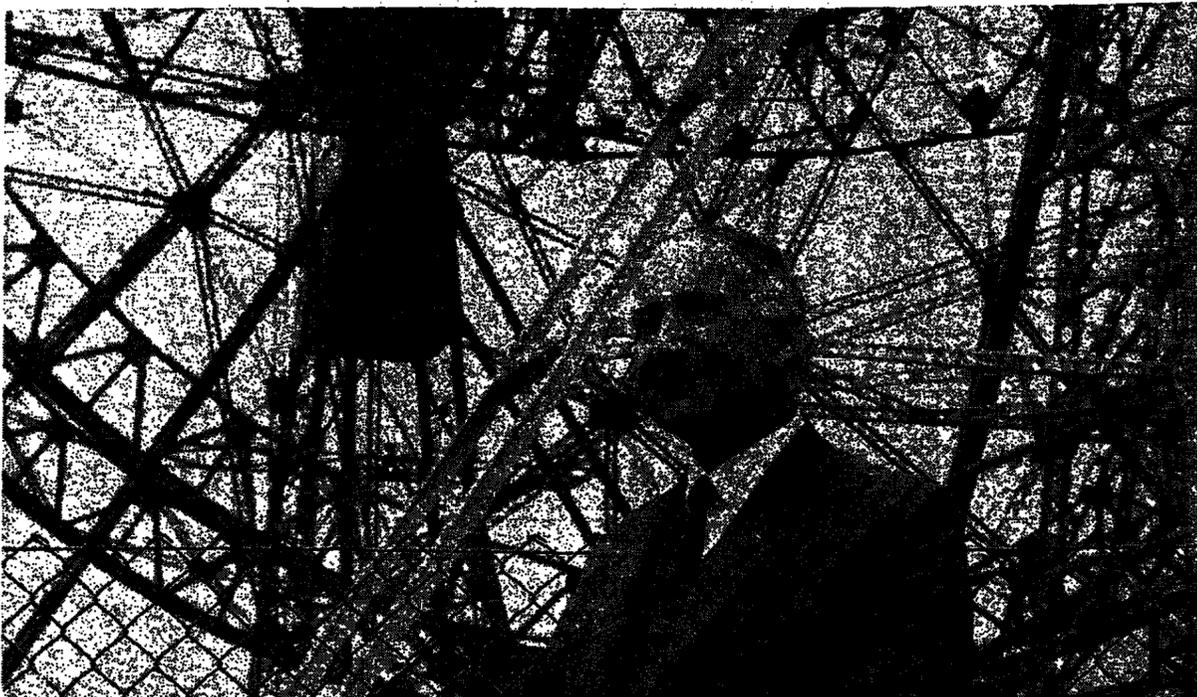
As the war continued, Lovell was placed in charge of another crucial radar development, Night bombing of Germany was proving ineffective. Two thirds of all crews failed to strike within five miles of their targets. The project, codenamed H2S, was the development of a radar "blind bombing" system to help pilots find their targets, but the system was bedevilled by problems.

On July 3, 1942 however, Lovell and his colleagues met Winston Churchill in the Cabinet Room. Churchill demanded that the blind bombing apparatus be operational by October, a seemingly impossible task. But at the end of the year a system was working. By the end of 1943, 32,000 out of 53,000 sorties were led by H2S aircraft. The same system could also detect submarines surfacing under cover of night. Hitler confessed that "the temporary setback in our U-boat campaign is due to a single technical invention of our enemies".

Lovell later said that he found his wartime experiences frustrating. At the end of the war, exhausted by six years of intense pressure, he returned to Manchester with two trailers of surplus radar equipment and a diesel with frozen fuel pipes. He set up a primitive station south of the city with two gardeners of the university's botanical grounds for company. The land once belonged to William Jauderell, who had fought with the Black Prince at Poitiers.

Some time before this, Lovell had suggested to Blackett that the rapid and transient echoes seen by coastal defence and airborne radar might be reflections from cosmic ray showers. Together they drew up a famous paper *Radio, echoes and cosmic ray showers* (Blackett rewrote Lovell's first draft in a Westminster shelter during an air raid). The echoes turned out not to be from cosmic rays but from meteors and on October 9, 1946, Lovell observed an intense meteor shower.

His work soon demonstrated that the strongly held belief that sporadic meteors came from outside our solar system was wrong. Meteors are pieces of rocky debris that circle the sun, ranging in size from the microscopic upwards. When one no bigger than a pinhead enters the earth's atmosphere it burns up, becoming a familiar



The Times Profile: Sir Bernard Lovell at 70

"shooting star". Radar enabled much fainter and even daytime meteors to be detected. Later Lovell was to write a classic textbook on the subject.

In 1946, construction began of a 218ft diameter fixed parabolic telescope consisting of fields of wires. This telescope contributed much to the reemergence of radio astronomy after the Second World War.

By 1948, Lovell had plans for a 250ft fully steerable dish. After a meeting at Edinburgh university, where Lovell presented his case, Sir Edward Appleton recorded: "All present were emphatic that every effort should be made to erect such a steerable instrument in Great Britain". In 1950 support came from astronomical and governmental quarters and in 1952 Husband and Company of Sheffield and London were appointed as engineers. Work began that autumn.

Ten thousand tons of reinforced concrete were poured into the foundations and eventually 2,000 tons of metal made up the superstructure. But the construction of the "big dish" was far from straightforward. The escalating costs became the subject of a House of Commons committee. Delays, mounting costs, increasing debts and bureaucracy wove a 10-year nightmare of intractable problems around Lovell, threatening at one time to send him to prison for alleged overspending of government money.

There was bitter opposition from other university departments and from Manchester corporation. But the public rallied and contributed £500,000 of the £850,000 cost. Although huge at the time, these sums were tiny compared to those spent on the US and Russian space programmes.

The first radio waves were picked up on August 2, 1957. Two months later the Russians launched Sputnik 1.

Lovell was in the right place at the right time and had an instrument that could vastly outperform anything else. One small radar echo confounded the opponents of Jodrell Bank, who were calling it a costly and technological white elephant. Jodrell Bank produced not only radar trackings of the first ever artificial satellite, but also its

carrier rocket, the first ever intercontinental ballistic missile. Nothing in the US or the USSR could match the big dish.

Later Jodrell was to pull off another coup. It transmitted signals to the American Pioneer V deep space probe to release it from its carrier rocket. The big dish was the only one capable of establishing radio contact with the probe at a distance of more than 22 million miles. Afterwards, a telephone call came from Lord Nuffield:

"Is that Lovell?" "Yes, my lord."

"How much is still owing on the telescope?" "About £50,000."

"Is that all, I want to pay it off."

Lovell was left speechless. It was Jodrell's contribution to astronomy. However, that kept it at the forefront of science for decades. Radio echoes from the moon gave a new accuracy to the measurement of the solar system. The telescope did much to investigate the shape and rotation of our own Milky Way. Because radio light is scarce compared to optical light it can traverse vast distances through space. Jodrell Bank measured the positions of radio sources that were found to be the most distant and energetic objects known in

the universe. These were called quasars and are exploding galaxies half a universe away.

I first met Lovell when I was a research student at Jodrell Bank. I was the junior member of the team headed by Lovell which looked for explosions on the surfaces of nearby stars - explosions similar to the solar flares seen on the sun.

Over the past decade the emphasis of research at Jodrell Bank has shifted away from the use of the single big dish to explore the universe. Jodrell pioneered a technique called radio interferometry whereby two small dishes some distance apart can be electronically connected in such a way as to perform like a single large dish of a size equal to the distance between them. Jodrell now has an array of telescopes throughout England and Wales which it uses to emit signals of a strength equal to that of an enormous single telescope.

Lovell's stewardship of what is perhaps Britain's most famous centre for science has not gone without criticism. A recent research team from the University of Sussex compared Jodrell Bank with three other centres of radio astronomy: Cambridge and

two others in Europe. They concluded that Jodrell performed poorly in the years 1969-78.

Lovell counters by arguing that this 10-year period is an unrepresentative "snapshot" and that it is misleading to compare Jodrell and Cambridge, since they are two aspects of the same national radio astronomy programme. Lovell points out that in 1967 he and other top radio astronomers took a policy decision to delay the re-equipping of Jodrell Bank and to build an array of telescopes at Cambridge.

In 1981, when Lovell handed over the directorship of Jodrell to Professor Graham Smith - who had left Jodrell in 1974 to become director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory - he pointed out that the big dish had already exceeded its expected 15-year lifetime by 10 years and was good for at least another 20.

Aside from his technical publications, Lovell has written many popular books communicating his understanding as well as his philosophy of nature. He conveys an exciting and positive image of all aspects of science and unlike many science writers is not swayed by fad or fashion.

He is a complex and diverse person. His keen interest in cricket has recently led to an investigation into electronic aids for umpires. He has demonstrated the art of water divining. Other interests include gardening and literature. He is a musician who particularly enjoys Elgar.

His love of his country was exemplified when he said that being away from England in the spring was "a peculiar form of masochism".

Although retired from the directorship of Jodrell Bank, Lovell still continues his researches and writings in an office built for him in the shadow of the big dish. It is true to say that radio astronomy has changed man's conception of the universe. The radio astronomy facilities he built up at Jodrell Bank have played a large role in the widening of horizons. Lovell has called it "the centre of immensities".

David Whitehouse

The author is an astrophysicist at University College London.



As seen by David Levine in 1969

- ALFRED CHARLES BERNARD LOVELL
born August 31, 1913.
- 1936 Assistant lecturer in physics at Manchester university.
 - 1937 Married Mary Joyce Chesterman.
 - 1939 Development of radar airborne interception system.
 - 1941 December 22: placed in charge of blind bombing.
 - 1945 December: returns to Manchester with surplus radio equipment.
 - 1946 Construction begins of 218ft fixed dish.
 - 1952 Autumn: Construction of Mark I telescope begins.
 - 1953 Elected Fellow of Royal Society.
 - 1957 August 2: Mark I telescope operational.
 - 1957 October 13: Became first ever professor of radio astronomy.
 - 1960 March 11: Pioneer 5 contacted at 22 million miles.
 - 1961 Knighted.
 - 1969-71 President Royal Astronomical Society.
 - 1970-75 Vice-president International Astronomical Union.
 - 1981 October: Retires as director of Jodrell Bank.

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FINDINGS

A series reporting on research PUBLIC OPINION

Smoking out
The General Household Survey's 1982 results have just been released by the Office of Population, Census and Surveys showing a continuing decline in the consumption of cigarettes. In 1972, 52 per cent of the public were smokers. The figure has declined steadily over the decade and now just more than a third, (38 per cent of men and 33 per cent of women) are regular smokers. A third of men and half of women have never (or only very occasionally) smoked.

Never on Sunday?
The Home Secretary has announced that the Government is to investigate the Sunday trading regulations. And well they might, for according to the work we carried out for the National Consumer Council last year, 62 per cent of the public said they wanted their MPs to vote for a Bill allowing shops to choose when they open and shut.

Gone East
It is holiday time for much of the population. Roads are less crowded, commuter trains less packed, restaurant tables are easier to book and generally it seems easier to get about. About 6 per cent of the electorate were away from home on June 9, including 5 per cent who were on holiday and therefore unable to vote at the general election.

Best men
What do Enoch Powell and Lord (Arnold) Weinstock of GEC have in common? Each is regarded by his peers as the most impressive of the breed. Each year MORI conducts a survey of 100 Members of Parliament and each year we ask our sample of MPs to name the most impressive back benches in the House. Each year the result is the same: Enoch Powell.

Best men
Last year Chris Patten was runner-up, but Mrs Thatcher has posted him to the Northern Ireland office so he's disqualified from the competition. This year Ted Heath ran second and Francis Pym was third. Next year Michael Foot, by then no longer leader of the Opposition, will be eligible: wonder if he'll give them a run for their money?

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No. 133)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35

ACROSS

- 1 Religious society (6)
- 2 Torture pleasure (6)
- 3 Car company (1,1,1)
- 4 Carved figure (6)
- 5 Care all (6)
- 6 Move slowly (6)
- 7 Study of ideas (8)
- 8 Fry (6)
- 9 Venerated (6)
- 10 Yukon gold area (8)
- 11 Stern core (4)
- 12 Book (6)
- 13 Fish and chip shop (6)
- 14 Mimic (3)
- 15 Lecture hall (6)
- 16 Seaman's jacket (6)

DOWN

- 1 Frequently (5)
- 2 Tough digger (7)
- 3 Great Gatsby (7)
- 4 Play chapter (5)
- 5 Bore hole (5)
- 6 Beach gravel (7)
- 7 Unbranded (7)
- 8 Sheep jacket (7)
- 9 Prisoner (7)
- 10 Early music symbol (5)
- 11 Moslem religion (5)
- 12 Cone-shaped tent (5)

SOLUTION TO No. 132

ACROSS: 1 Sawyer 4 Honest 7 Beef 8 Aquarium 9 Anania 12 Wan 15 Unany 16 Flaten 17 Gal 19 Sclerose 24 Kuznetsov 25 Pat 26 Smoker 27 Livery

DOWN: 1 Sobs 2 Whetstical 3 Riza 4 Henri 5 Nark 6 Scuba 10 Piles 11 Atlas 12 Water rate 13 Non 14 4 Bang 18 Alarm 20 Chair 21 Spel 22 Bk 23 Play

The author is managing director of Market Opinion and Research International

مكتبة الأصيل

THE TIMES DIARY

Palace of varieties

Alexandra Palace is to rise again. Louis Bizat, who administers the £30m trust set up to look after the building after it was gutted by fire in 1980, is jubilant that permission has been granted for redevelopment as an exhibition and leisure centre.

Spoilt rare bit

There is more troublesome news of a burnt building in Wales, the hotel at Postmerion by Clough Williams-Ellis. After a succession of retrospective applications for planning permission for repairs already carried out in what conservationists consider an "unsatisfactory, crude and piecemeal" way, the Victorian Society has begged the Welsh Office to halt all work until a comprehensive restoration scheme has been approved.

An American has invented the vending machine in reverse. You put empty beer cans in, and get 24 cents out. This uncanny ecological improvement has gone into operation in South Carolina.

Own gaol

Arthur Logan Petch retires as chairman of industrial tribunals in England and Wales next month. He holds a unique legal distinction. He once defended the man who burgled his house. Despite a strong plea in mitigation, praised by the judge, the man went to prison.

BARRY FANTONI



"Gerald's so brave. He picked up our old ironing board and just threw it on the tip."

Pawn and mate

The suspicions against President Marcos excited by the murder of Benigno Aquino and the immediate despatch of his assassin puts the President in the same class as Alexander the Great. Alexander's father, Philip II of Macedonia, was stabbed by a pawn called Pausanias while marching in the wedding procession of his daughter Cleopatra at Aegae in 336 BC. Pausanias was immediately captured and killed, and suspicion of having inspired his crime fell upon Alexander. The guilty party was more probably his mother, Olympias. Please do not read that to mean that I think Mrs Marcos fixed this one.

Fore and after

Seven well-known thriller writers have formed their own TV production company, and worked a surprise into the announcement of the fact. Philip Mackie, who scripted Malice Aforethought, is described by Hoagless Thrillers as "one of the boys with toxic talents that went into his like Malice Aforethought". Is this a sequel or just a mini-series?

Devising a symbol for the European Currency Unit (ECU), which shares its name with an obsolete French coin and is a notional composite of all EEC currencies except the Greek drachma, is too easy for my readers. The two popular solutions were monographs of ECU, and the Greek E with a cancelling stroke to symbolize Greece's exclusion. Peter Grant suggested the Old English letter, thorn, "to immortalize the ineffably absurd Gaston Thorn and remind other members that Britain will continue to be a thorn in their flesh"; D. A. Johnson suggested a reversed ampersand because the money would go in "back anders"; and Collis Brown thought a V sign appropriate. The winner, though, is Anne Ochsner whose symbol has Greek E facing both ways (as any EEC symbol should), can be typed using brackets and a dash, and since the ECU does not exist as notes or coins, shows, she suggests, that "the ECU is a pun currency, at which we should draw the line". PHS

Cathy comes back for a handout

by David Walker

Faintly at first but unmistakably comes the noise of a lobby jirding itself to battle for extra public expenditure.

Books, heart-rending stories in Sunday newspapers, a television series Breadline Britain, all proclaim that the poverty lobby is reorganizing. Parallel moves on the public housing front suggest that Cathy is likely to come home again in the mid-1980s, too.

A former New Society journalist, Paul Harrison, packages himself as a latterday Mayhew to penetrate darkest Stoke Newington and in a new Penguin* treats us to an emotional account of this hidden Third World on our affluent doorsteps. There is "decay... dereliction... violent theft... massive levels of social need" and nary a Cissold Park gentrifier in sight.

A survey is published telling us of unknown reservoirs of poverty: 7,000,000 Britons do not know where the next instalment on their colour television rental is coming from. Nearly 12,000,000 people (albeit on a sample of 1,174) are classified as sometimes poor.

But does this negate the untiring efforts of the poverty campaigners since the 1960s when the existence of primary poverty, despite the welfare state, was first given widespread publicity? Of course not: the MORI poll reported subjective assessments of the elements of a reasonable standard of living. People living on yesterday's moderate standards are today's "new poor". In fact, poverty campaigners of the Frank Field stamp have - with political allies from across the spectrum - made significant progress in alleviating primary deprivation.

*Inside the Inner City, £3.95

What is happening now is only marginally connected with the institutionalized poverty groups. Such bodies as the Child Poverty Action Group have taken on an establishment colouring; indeed CPAG's Ruth Lister seems positively scholarly in her encyclopaedic knowledge of the multi-volumed intricacies of social security.

Instead there are signs of a spill-over from the disarray of the Labour Party. The educated, altruistic middle class's moral indignation is increasingly denied the opportunities once provided by the Labour Party for political activism. Single-issue campaigning thus beckons attractive and, to be sure, the poor are always with us.

Objectively, Britain remains a society where income and life chances are unequal, where the gross facts of social disorganization (the single-parent families, the unattached elderly) and deprivation (the physical state of the core of private rented housing, the conditions of existence where the breadwinner is long-term unemployed) are stubbornly unyielding.

These gross facts might, with time, respond to detailed social policies of a type that Margaret Thatcher's government has been singularly unwilling to develop; its priorities seem to have been merely expenditure control by chopping back demand-led outlays. Absent has been hard thinking about "problem" families, the care of children in low income environments and, most important, how to deliver services to such families. All that has been visible have, on the one hand, been the facile

mottos evidenced in the Family Policy Group's discussions and, on the other, a policy towards local authorities that implausibly seeks to kill off high-spending without hurting the social services that the high spending councils deliver.

But constructive social policy is one thing; emotional campaigns another. According to the MORI poll published last weekend the British public would support a 1p rise in income tax, presumably to "cure" poverty. This is simple-heartedness carried too far: enhanced cash handouts may be part of the solution for some poor people but part only. The "problem" of poverty in Britain is a tissue of inadequacy and even fecklessness as well as material want. It is a political problem, too, and not the kind to be solved by increasing the rate support grant to Hackney Borough Council. Council housing and council inefficiency are themselves part of the problem.

Would-be poverty campaigners would do well to turn up the study published last year by the Social Science Research Council on cycles of deprivation. One finding was the need for an intensive policy for families which recognized that many poor people are inadequate and need - though the whole ethos of 1960s-style social work is against this - to be taught the virtues of thrift.

Affecting vignettes of life among the Hackney poor do not of themselves make a case for increased social security payments. They might, instead, suggest that the women of poor families need help and guidance on household management - a conclusion that no doubt smacks too much of the Grantham corner shop to make it acceptable to the morally indignant poverty lobby.

Richard Owen on the symbolic obstacle to Soviet economic progress

Andropov tries to jump the great Russian queue

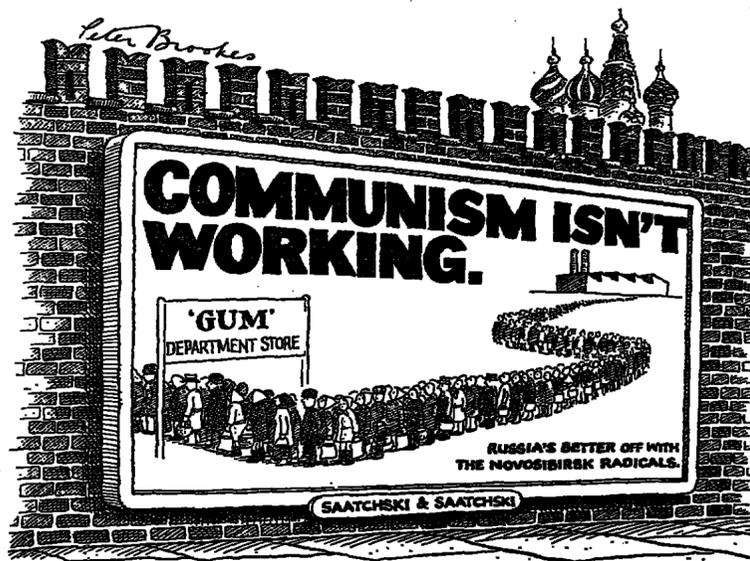
Moscow Rounding the corner from The Times office the other day I came across a queue three feet deep stretching for several blocks. Lucky (and patient) customers at the head of the queue were making off with their rare booty: toilet paper. Some carried unmanageable bundles, others were festooned with it. The following day the queue was still there, shuffling forward.

"The queue - any queue - is a perfect illustration of what Andropov is up against," an economist friend remarked. "Despite all our achievements, 65 years after the revolution we still cannot produce basic commodities. We are always laying the basis for future abundance while spending our daily lives in an endless search for everyday goods."

Queuing, together with absenteeism, is the most obvious sign of Russia's economic difficulties. The two are connected. Under a new law on labour discipline - Mr Andropov's hallmark - anyone found absent from his place of work for more than three hours a day is deemed absent for a day, and anyone absent for a day without good cause forfeits a day of holiday entitlement. Since three hours in a queue is not that unusual, many Soviet factory and office workers are trapped. If they take time off to buy shoes or sausage, they risk a stiff penalty, including having to pay compensation for loss of production at work; but if they do not take their place in the queue the family goes unfed or unshod.

Mr Andropov's answer is that if all workers stayed at their benches or desks and made more effort, the economy would grow to the point where supply would finally catch up with demand, and the queues would melt away.

Many Russians are sceptical, including the Kremlin advisers who recently leaked a damaging report on the Soviet economy to the western press (previously unheard-of). All senior economists from the elite research centre at Akademgorodok in Novosibirsk, the authors came to the conclusion that the Soviet economy needed thorough



overhaul if it was to be transformed from a fundamentally Stalinist system of central control into a sensitive economic mechanism attuned to workers' and consumers' needs and wishes. "Tackle the cause, not the symptoms," was the message from Novosibirsk.

This apparently common sense recommendation was put on one side as too radical after a top-level conference in April. Instead, the Kremlin announced a "limited economic experiment" in five selected industries from next January, giving plant managers vaguely defined powers over budget and manning, and with a nod in the direction of profit and loss accounting.

The reformers and their Kremlin allies have come up against the immovable object on which all Soviet reformers sooner or later stub their toes: the entrenched bureaucracy. Mr Andropov has a sharp brain, and is slowly unfolding a long-term strategy which has been forming in his mind since he had access to the real facts of economic life as head of the KGB. But the average economic administrator is neither as sharp nor as perceptive, and is more concerned to keep his largely unnecessary job than to stimulate change and growth.

It is of course not out of the question - and there are whispers to this effect in Moscow - that the Novosibirsk radicals' allies include Mr Andropov himself. Leaks do not

happen by chance, least of all in the Soviet Union. Mr Nikolai Baibakov, Russia's chief state planner as head of Gosplan for nearly 20 years, gave a press conference in which he expounded the new measures, on the grounds that the economy was too large to restructure swiftly, and sought to minimize the significance of the leaked reports. Yet only two days before, in a speech to party veterans, Mr Andropov had spoken of reforms stretching well into the next five year plan. Using language very close to that of the document, he criticized "half-measures" which had failed to overcome "accumulated inertia".

One observer of the Soviet scene remarked: "Nobody looking at Mr Baibakov could fail to think of accumulated inertia." Bureaucratic officials point out that Mr Brezhnev also called for efficiency and labour discipline, but omit to add that Mr Andropov is doing something about it, in the face of opposition from Brezhnevites.

If Mr Andropov does succeed where others have failed, it will be because he is skilfully combining gradual reforms with a tough crackdown on indiscipline. Mr Andropov has set an example by staying at his desk through much of the summer. But how far is he able or willing to go?

There have been some hints in the Soviet press that a little private enterprise here and there might not be a bad thing. One senior

economic official even suggested to me that a little unemployment in the grossly overmanned socialist economy would do no harm. Such unorthodox thoughts are clearly inspired by the dismal performance of an economy with declining growth rates (the growth rate target this year is only 3.2 per cent).

The reality remains that - as an Armenian economist disclosed in the theoretical journal *Kommunist* in June - the economic bureaucracy is colossal, with 64 ministries and 23 state committees dealing with all details of planning and production. It is high time to reexamine the organization and management of the entire industrial complex. *Kommunist* declared: "It is not possible to continue multiplying ministries."

Perhaps not. Many Muscovites in the queue must have wondered why 64 ministries could not between them arrange for the production of toilet paper in the right quantities at the right time. On the other hand, neither *Kommunist* nor Mr Andropov, nor the Novosibirsk reformers have yet told us how Thatcherite principles of cost-effectiveness and streamlining can be applied to Russia without either undermining the ideological purity of Marxism or Leninism (sternly guarded by Mr Andropov himself) or provoking a counter-revolution from the kind of managers who know how to talk about efficiency but not how to achieve it.

Gas prices: too hot for the government

If there were a ballot among rank-and-file Conservative MPs about the issues that caused them most grief during the last election campaign, gas prices would undoubtedly be in their Top Three. The Government's decision in 1979 to order the already highly profitable British Gas Corporation to double its domestic tariffs over a three-year period is one that most voters have never begun to comprehend - and it is no secret that many backbenchers think privately that the voters are right. This week's report from the accountants Deloitte, Haskins and Sells on efficiency at British Gas will therefore reopen sensitive wounds with its conclusion that the corporation is still undercharging its customers and not doing enough to maximize its profits, a criticism that is the exact reverse of the one that the gas men normally spend their time answering.

There is no doubt, however, that the accountants have virtue - though not political expediency - on their side. The core of their argument is that the corporation, as a monopoly supplier without the benefit of market competition, should be basing its pricing policy on the costs it faces for its newest supplies (the so-called marginal cost) rather than on the actual average cost it happens to be paying on its existing and artificially depressed cheap North Sea supplies.

This principle, incomprehensible as it may be to the man in the street, has a long and respectable pedigree. It was upheld, for example, by the Price Commission in 1979, and follows closely the guidelines for nationalized industry pricing laid down by the 1967 and 1978 White Papers on the state industries. It is also the one followed in general terms by British Gas itself. Its rationale is that the only way to ensure that the country's valuable natural resources should be exploited in the most economical way is to give the right price signals about its future cost to consumers.

All the households which have switched to gas central heating or gas cookers in the last decade should not be doing so - or so the argument goes - in the mistaken belief that gas is going to maintain its 25 per cent cost advantage over other forms of fuel for the foreseeable future.

This is clearly not so. Gas is becoming more expensive to buy. British Gas is having to pay four or five times what it paid for early North Sea supplies to buy new quantities from both UK and Norwegian suppliers in the North Sea.

Sir Denis Rooke, the corporation's chairman, has already warned that domestic gas bills are likely to have to rise by more than the rate of inflation over the rest of the 1980s. If it serves to impress this fact

upon potential consumers, the Deloitte report will not have been in vain.

The problem is that acknowledging a principle is one thing, implementing it quite another. For a start, even the experts cannot agree on what the proper price of gas should be, even if the marginal cost principle is accepted. Economists and Treasury officials both say snuffily that the marginal cost of gas is relatively easier to establish, compared with that of, say, electricity.

All the rough-and-ready indicators of the marginal cost - the price British Gas pays for its most expensive Norwegian imports, or the length of queues of customers wishing to switch from oil to gas - confirm that gas is under-priced on this basis. But the corporation, the Government and outside economists all have different opinions about how fast the ground should be made up. For example, Mr David Howell, the former Energy Secretary who was responsible for the three-year crash programme of price rises, now says that enough is enough and prices should be frozen.

The Government is further complicating the situation by intervening in the corporation's affairs. Its financial targets for the industry are based on short-term public sector financial considerations

rather than long-term requirements of the business. Political intervention in gas pricing also has a long pedigree: the Labour government raised prices quite unnecessarily in 1977 to raise £100m towards its International Monetary Fund rescue package, then froze them for electoral advantage ahead of the 1979 election. This Tory government initially continued the freeze, then launched its price-rise programme.

It is hard to deny the conclusion of the Deloitte report that British Gas should be told exactly what its pricing strategy should be - regardless of short-term political interest - and then required to stick to it. This is because the pricing of gas has such extensive ramifications on the economy as a whole, including the rate of inflation and government revenues. It also has a direct bearing on the rate at which the country's gas reserves are being depleted.

Politicians being politicians, it is hard to believe however that they will ever come round to the principle that gas pricing should be taken out of the political arena. For that reason, the report may prove in the end to be no more than another silly season headline.

Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

Matthew Parris

Taking the polite out of politician

Every age has its conventional wisdoms, most of them wrong. The really major idiocies are usually a matter of consensus between worthy men of all parties. The Armada, the Maginot Line and the tower block, the slave trade, the Test Act, our former immigration policy and the British Motor Corporation: the window tax, the Location of Offices Bureau and the reorganization of a local government... all have commanded the respect among politicians that leeches need to command among the medical profession. I expect there was a time when one had only to call "Leeches!" from the backbenches in Parliament to elicit a resounding "Hear, Hear!" from both sides of the House. Now, one would be ordered to withdraw.

I dare say our age is the first to be completely free from delusion. However, just on the off chance that it is not, I wonder whether we are better-equipped than our forebears to seek and destroy can? Take the House of Commons. We enjoy a system of constituency representation which appoints 650 counsellors for the defence, but no prosecutors. Human nature inclines the experts in any field to be its protagonists, and though it is true that any MP could spend his time tearing into his constituents, the sacred cows of their material interests, he is likely to do what he will be rewarded or thanked for doing. One is thanked, generally, for helping people.

In theory, of course, wherever resources are finite it should follow that to defend one interest is to oppose another. According to his theory, one's enthusiasm for a theatre museum would diminish as one's desire to augment the war widows' pension increased. But it does not seem to work that way. All the pressures are towards an MP promoting "his" constituents and "his" area of special interest. Who, then, will oppose them?

Anne Sofer suggested in these columns that we ask voters whom they would particularly not want to represent them. I expect she thinks this should count against a candidate but I wonder whether it could not count in his favour? Should we not balance our regular MPs with an elite cadre of members - anti-MPs if you like - chosen for the numbers of voters they had estranged and the depth of offence they had caused: members driven remorselessly on by a need to be swept back into power, at the election, on a tide of anger and public loathing?

As things stand, important arguments are left prudently unheeded. There is a case, for instance, against all regional policy - but we shall not hear it from the regional members. "None of your business" I remember an inner-city colleague retorting when, from my green and landlocked constituency I sneered at a deplorable redevelopment scheme. There is an argument about agricultural subsidy - but why master the mysteries of the green farmers? And, if you do, why knock subsidy?

Now it may be objected that the official Opposition was a device designed to debunk the Government. Certainly the parties debunk each other but this is a diversion, a

substitute, for questioning the idiotic complacencies on which there is consensus between the parties.

Perhaps when the party system was based more clearly on class hatred and class loyalty, politicians could be more uninhibitedly offensive to the people, rather than each other. Then, perhaps, you tried to please only your own side. Now, we have to please everybody. The Labour Party is fading. The Liberal Party is in favour of everything except dog litter: the SDP wants to help everyone; while the Tories, who still occasionally turn things down, do so reluctantly.

We are in principle hostile to nothing except crime, Russia and organized labour. When we are not calling other politicians liars and cheats we are writing to our constituents thanking them for their views about the plight of social-workers/ librarians/ baby seals, expressing ourselves conscious of their deep and understandable concern, while only reminding them of the practical limits to our powers.

Opposition MPs do the same. It is now really the Treasury which effectively shoulders the burden of official Opposition. But it is wrong that a handful of ministers, necessarily inept in all the worthwhile proposals that have to be resisted, should be left to provide the counter-argument. They are reduced to blocking their ears and shouting "Sorry - no cash!" It leads to the spreading and shallow assumption that the only reason for the Government's not doing more is shortage of money. It is inadequate argument but it is all that a Treasury Minister is equipped to deploy.

From among my anti-MPs, therefore, will be chosen anti-ministers. These will be appointed with special areas of responsibility and promoted for their vigour in beating back the waves of sentimentous wailing that is a minister's job to reflect and amplify.

Debates will be marked by speech after speech from anti-ministers opposed, successively, to shipbuilding, mining, transport and the arts, while my anti-minister for trade will call for ever-more massive foreign dumping in Britain, so that we can get goods cheaply. Special anti-ministers will be appointed, on an ad hoc basis, to oppose the West Midlands, moorland preservation and children's play. My anti-campaign minister will beg the Soviet Union to occupy Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

Readers will, no doubt, correctly, judge me fanciful. Perhaps I overstate the case. But I envisage a Parliament in which things are said which are not now said which ought to be said, but which it is to nobody's present advantage to say.

The real enemy in Britain never colleague retorting when, from my green and landlocked constituency I sneered at a deplorable redevelopment scheme. There is an argument about agricultural subsidy - but why master the mysteries of the green farmers? And, if you do, why knock subsidy?

Now it may be objected that the official Opposition was a device designed to debunk the Government. Certainly the parties debunk each other but this is a diversion, a

Jonathan Sale

Down to grass tracks with Urban Man

So much for the second home. That's it for 1983, which sees the end of a decade of happy second-home ownership. We look forward to the next 10 years of holidays in a structure that is free from rates, mortgages, dry rot and political disapproval. Meanwhile, into the loft goes the second home.

Our tent is a Gothic folly in canvas (unlike the house which is merely a folly). Each year it grows a little: an extra sleeping compartment, an awning. Yet all it needs is six square yards or so of grass, hired for a fortnight a year. I think of it as a form of time-sharing. We own the fabric, rent the earth.

Each year on the first day of the school holidays, a cheer echoes around the car as the trailer slips over the River Tamar and into Cornwall. This is generally agreed to be the moment at which we cease to be residents of bricks and mortar, and start to be dwellers under canvas. Dr Jekyll has become Mr Hyde, or perhaps it is the other way round. House Man has become Tent Man.

House Man puts off investigating the patten of rainwater under the tiles until the decibel count goes over the pain threshold; Tent Man has the poles in position before the keys are out of the ignition. House Man tells House Wife to get up the ladder herself if the roof worries her that much. Tent Man cheerfully unpegs the guy-ropes and, to please Tent Wife, shifts the whole thing a foot and a half to the left. House Man members of a morning like Rip Van Winkle on Mogador; Tent Man is up first thing to make tea for Tent Wife and breakfast for Tent Kids, whereupon he starts on sandwiches for lunch on the beach.

House Man has two showers a day and covers himself in something high-powered by Brut bought in an Amnesty jumble sale. Tent Man has two swims a day and tells Tent Wife that's good enough. (Five years ago, a whole new shower wing was added to the camp-site's toilet block; some of us have never been in it.)

House Man takes his bicycle everywhere, even into friends' flats, so that his feet have forgotten how to move except with a circular motion. Tent Man stuffs a mountain-bike rucksack with towels, food and jumpers, heaves Tent Toddler upon his shoulders and

strides off along the lengthy track to the beach. House Man is never without the sound of one of his radios, which range from the tuner of the stereo system to a tiny model disguised as a packet of digestive biscuits. Tent Man appreciates silence so much that he catches himself trying to shush the seagulls.

House Man counts calories and sugar content; he occasionally writes caustic restaurant reviews. Tent Man finds grass in the tea, tea in the mussels and dead wasps in everything; he consumes it all. (So does Tent Sister-in-Law, dropping in from the next tent but one at supper time and remarking, "Ah, pigswill," before accepting a trough, or plate, of the thrown-together repast.)

House Man spends his evenings vaguely looking for the drill and not putting up shelves, which he finds very weirding. Tent Man often spends afternoons watching grass grow on dunes, but sometimes is not quite so energetic. House Man washes what is left of his hair twice a week. Tent Man never touches shampoo (or even a comb) for a whole fortnight - see "swims" above.

Tent Man meets fellow Tent Folk while filling his water-carrier at the tap, like an African villager at the water-hole. House Man goes for any, without exchanging a word with the neighbours, and then it is mainly political abuse with the man at Number 31. Tent Man relishes the feel of bare earth and sand on his toes. House Man once walked on bare feet from the car to the gate, only to be reminded that urban dogs have made this a risky procedure.

Tent Man, Wife, Sister-in-Law and Husband have discovered a nudist beach, where they sunbathe without embarrassment and surf cautiously. House Man is throttled by his tie but clings to it in case important people walk into his office; they never do, at least not without knocking. Tent Man has no mirror. House Man looks in one and discovers that at the end of his holiday, his nose had begun to peel like anything.

House Man's favourite sight is the bridge at the River Tamar, showing travellers from east to west that Cornwall is at hand, or at wheel. Tent Man, reluctantly proceeding from west to east, hates it,

صكزامن الاصل



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DETENTION BY ERROR

Earlier this month a mentally handicapped patient who had been sent to Rampton Hospital 11 years ago as a boy of sixteen was released on the instructions of a Mental Health Review Tribunal, and became a voluntary in-patient at a mental hospital in his home town. The chairman of the tribunal took the unusual step of making public a statement in which he made clear that the patient, Mr Lyle Clarke, would have been unlikely on present guidelines to be accepted as a suitable patient for Rampton. He added that after the tribunal's original decision last May that he should be released, it was discovered that a number of bizarre allegations in his confidential medical record were exaggerated or wholly untrue. Whether by malice, negligence or innocent oversight, he had been the victim of a gross injustice.

Mr Clarke's case is one of the first of many to be heard in the next few months. He had sought tribunal hearings before, in 1973 and 1975, but since then he had apparently given up hope to such an extent that he was initially reluctant to appear this year. His entire adult life has, after all, been spent at Rampton. In the earlier hearings he presumably represented himself, and since he was apparently unaware of the false charges in his records (which may be withheld from a patient if it is considered medically desirable) it is no wonder that he failed. Similarly, the solicitor presenting his case in May would have been unable to refer them to the patient himself and discover that they were denied.

Outside hospital for the rehabilitation of mental patients is an important side-issue in the case: it is not enough to improve the machinery if the means are absent. If the law had not been changed, Mr Clarke might have been robbed of his liberty for far longer, and might have sunk into an institutionalized state where he could no longer have benefited even if the wrong done to him had been discovered. But the new system does not guarantee that similar injustices will necessarily be uncovered, or that new ones will not occur. It is easy to envisage circumstances in which false information might even now block a patient's release and never become known to those in a position to contest it. Errors can creep into the record without any question of malice, through unclear noting of hearsay or patient's fantasy. The facts of the present case remain worryingly obscure. Mr Clarke's family and Mind, the national association for mental health, have asked the Government for an inquiry, whether or not there is evidence of malice - even more, perhaps, if there is none - to establish what went wrong and whether measures are needed to prevent it happening again. In the meantime, tribunals should work in full awareness of the lessons of the case, and in particular consider the status of the evidence before them. Where it is held to be medically unavoidable to withhold important evidence from a patient, that evidence should be treated with special care.

SANCTIONS NEED CONCERTING

The signing in Moscow today of a new five-year grain agreement between the United States and the USSR may mark a fresh approach by Washington to the thorny question of economic sanctions, but it certainly does not end the heated debate on how best to coordinate policy on East-West trade. There is resentment in Europe that whereas European industry suffered from US sanctions on the Siberian gas pipeline, in the grain deal US domestic politics weighed more heavily than the interests of the Alliance. West European governments, however, are themselves criticized for failing to cooperate on the pipeline issue, laying their cards on the table for a significant part of their energy supplies. Moreover, they are prepared to subsidize the sale of EEC butter to the USSR.

Sanctions have a role in Nato policy, however, whether the aim is to encourage the Soviet leaders to behave better towards dissidents, Poles and Afghans, or whether it is no more than the understandable desire to prevent a hostile state becoming militarily or economically stronger than we are. But to serve any purpose they must be effective, and to be effective they should be applied in a less piecemeal fashion than hitherto. The Soviet authorities, reaping some advantage from their centralized political and economic control, derive great satisfaction from playing one Nato ally against another, and encouraging firms - often from the same country - to undercut each other. Grain sanctions lose impact when Canada, or a non-Nato source such as Argentina, offers alternative supplies. Just before the arrival in Moscow of Mr John Block, the US Secretary of Agriculture, Soviet officials told visiting Congressmen that any grain imports beyond the new annual minimum of nine million tons would not be bought from the USA unless balanced by the purchase of Soviet goods.

The ban on exporting Caterpillar pipelaying tractors to the USSR was rendered ineffective by Japan's Komatsu Company snatching the lost orders, and now President Reagan has decided to remove the embargo which was imposed in response to the 1978 dissident trials. Again, the advisers defending domestic economic interests prevailed over those concerned with strategic defence. Had Japan agreed to cooperate, the argument for the sanctions would have been stronger. Strengthening and extending the competence of the Coordinating Committee charged with restricting exports of strategic materials and equipment to communist countries (COCOM) would be a constructive step in avoiding such conflicts of interest in future. Tokyo, concerned at the Soviet military buildup in the Pacific area, is more interested than before in such cooperation. The debate on sanctions is growing particularly sharp in Washington; the Export Administration Act expires on 30 September, and amendments promoted by commercial interests could weaken the President's power to impose export bans.

BOWLING ALONG THE ROAD

A form of locomotion favoured by Toad and B Wooster must be good. So Ford thinks, for it has re-invented the convertible in a version of the Escort. Convertibles are for motoring, which is distinct from driving much as boating is from rowing, or ping-pong from table-tennis. Motoring is an end in itself. The destination, the time taken, the quality of the radio reception, the registration number, the operational condition of the cigar lighter, all are secondary to the pure sensation of bowling along the road. As the sensation is keener if nothing stands between motorist and hedgerow except a current of warm air, your convertible is the thing.

Contrary to the indications of common sense the wind hits you in the back of the neck, not on the brow. This obtains whether you are going backwards or forwards. It blows the hair over the eyes. If the hair is worn at fashionable length it is necessary to carry a McEneaney fillet or snood in the glove compartment. In winter a top coat should be

worn. There is no known method of sealing a convertible against draughts; nor, eventually, against water. Sooner or later an umbrella becomes part of the standard equipment. The back seat is the best place on a hot day. It cannot be recommended in other conditions. Smell is the great bonus of open-skies motoring - the smell of pine woods, blossom, showers on the dust, the early hours of a summer's night. Since no other motor vehicle smells nice, choose deserted roads. On motorways the only lane fit for use by a convertible is the hard shoulder. Since that is out of bounds, an alternative route should be found. Motoring proper is at its best on a warm day in June where the bean fields are in flower and scenting the lanes. Avoid oil seed rape.

The Turkish question From Sir Bernard Burrows Sir, Your criticism of the current Turkish constitutional process (leader, August 15) omits important historical considerations. Among the reasons for the state of anarchy in Turkey prior to the assumption of power by the armed forces in 1980 were two which are relevant to the situation today. The constitution introduced after the military government of 1960-61 contained so many checks and balances on the executive as to make firm government almost impossible. In particular, parliament could only be dissolved before the expiry of its full term if a majority of deputies voted for this. Not surprisingly this never happened and the result was a

continuing stalemate between the two main parties. The politicians then in power were unable to agree on the means of suppressing terrorism of the right and left which was making life intolerable for the ordinary citizen. Instead they took it in turns to make deals with disreputable fringe parties in order to obtain or retain in power. This led, amongst other things, to the politicization of the police force and recurrent gang warfare in the universities. It is hardly surprising that the present regime should seek to delay the re-entire of such politicians into political life. The previous restorations of parliamentary democracy in Turkey may be regarded with hindsight as having been too rapid and doctrinaire.

The present process is deliberately slower and more gradual, in the hope that it may be longer lasting and not require another military intervention in 10 years' time. The resulting political system will not be perfect - but what system is? Nor will the means of achieving it be free from blemish, but comment from outside is more likely to be of value if it gives due weight to the traumatic experience which Turkey underwent in the late Seventies, and the widespread desire in the country that this experience should not be repeated. Yours faithfully, BERNARD BURROWS, Steep Farm, Petersfield, Hampshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Growing doubt on youth training

From the Director of Youthaid Sir, Michael Howard's letter (August 18) about the rejected plan for Kent County Council to provide 500 Youth Training Scheme places is so misleading that those less tolerant than I would call it vexatious. The rejected scheme proposed to take on 500 school leavers at £25 a week to learn, among other things, catering skills and gardening. In the past Kent have taken on some school leavers each year into trainee grades such as cadet cook or parks department trainee. Last year they took on 28, in 1981 it was 50. These programmes for fully paid youngsters are now abandoned in favour of taking on more young people, but at Government, not county, expense. And they will be paid only the trainee allowance of £25 instead of the full pay of £43.37. A year from now, a lucky 40 of these 500 will be taken on as 17-year-old employees. But as a result few or no 17-year-olds will be taken on direct. No wonder the trade unions involved saw this proposal as a way of reducing, not increasing, youth employment and a lengthy way of selecting 17-year-olds at public expense. And no wonder the Manpower Services Commission are board, with employers and officials on it too, backed them and rejected the scheme. A predecessor of the Youth Training Scheme was called Work Experience on Employers' Premises. A survey of employers involved found that about 30 per cent went for Government-subsidized trainees instead of full-priced labour. The Kent experience confirms growing fears that the Youth Training Scheme will be no better. With 300,000 places at employers' premises, that would represent 90,000 lost jobs. Hardly an "avenue of opportunity" for the unemployed. Of course, the cancellation in Kent has caused disappointment. My niece was one let down. But Kent County Council has no right to tell the young people of the scheme before it has been approved by the MSC area board. It is Kent, not the unions, that bears the responsibility for the disappointment. And all of the disappointed youngsters will be found a place elsewhere. I take up my post at Youthaid officially on September 5. But already my desk is piled high with reports of serious problems with the Youth Training Scheme. None of them concerns the attitudes of the trade unions. Michael Howard should consider all the evidence before making his case. Politics really should be kept out of jobs for school leavers. Yours faithfully, PAUL LEWIS, Director, Youthaid, 9 Poland Street, W1, August 22.

Balanced view of Soviet challenge

From the Chancellor of the University of Toronto Sir, I read your leading article, "Soviet challenge", of August 20 on my way back from the Soviet Union where I was discussing the resumption of academic exchanges broken off by Canada after Afghanistan and Poland. Your article, it seems to me, is quite right when it says that "it makes little sense to spend the country's wealth on weapons of mass destruction which, as deterrents, it is hoped never to use, while simultaneously trying to economize by reducing the educational budget for Russian studies." We in Canada are guilty of the same kind of false economy, only we do our hands further by sending our students of Russia off from the benefit of exchanges, which the USA, tougher in other ways, has perceived as self-defeating. But, if we are to arrive at a "realistic assessment of Moscow's policies" as a "first step towards organizing a coherent defence", we must concentrate on the well-known attributes of an autocratic society like spying, repression and propaganda emphasizing antagonism rather than any possibilities of mutual cooperation in the common interest. Nothing so legitimizes militarism in the Soviet Union as the constantly reproduced threats from the outside world and sustained antagonism, which is seldom followed by coherent policies or action. The Soviet system has many problems on the agenda requiring cooperation rather than confrontation, such as persistent nationalist feelings among its scores of ethnic minorities, the need for foreign trade and investment and falling productivity. If our differences are not exercised in resolution by weapons of mass destruction, the Alliance should seriously consider organizing "a coherent defence" by means alternative to the present escalation of nuclear blackmail and antagonism. Is not another "Wise Man" exercise on non-military cooperation long overdue in Nato? (Pearson-Lange and Martino, 1958). Yours truly, GEORGE IGNATIEFF, Chancellor, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 21.

Bracken-spraying on Dartmoor

From Lady Sayer Sir, A valuable report prepared for the Council for National Parks by Dr Ian Brotherhood, of Sheffield University, reveals the increasing strength of agricultural representation on national park boards and committees: this representation has risen by 50 per cent since 1979, mainly for political reasons. The result is disastrous for many national parks, including Dartmoor. At its meeting on July 28 the Dartmoor National Park Committee accepted the recommendation of one of its subcommittees (consisting of five members, four of them farming representatives) to raise no objection to the spraying by helicopter of a toxic bracken-killer on a large area of open common, Haynes Down, on eastern Dartmoor, an area most visited by family parties on account of its famous rock stack, Bowerman's Nose, and the views from the tor above it. An unfenced road and public bridleway traverse the common, and people enjoy walking, riding and picnicking everywhere on this land. Toxic spraying on private enclosed fields may be one thing: such operations on open access moorland, followed by lime-spreading, are surely quite another. The park officials admit that the public will have to be chased off the down before, during, and in the week following bracken-spraying operations; and that "it would not be advisable to eat bilberries from the down"; after the associated liming, "bilberry under suffer and so would the small amount of heather... the botanical interest of wet areas will be reduced and lichens adversely affected." This kind of situation will continue and worsen while farming interests are allowed to dictate policy in our national parks. Yours faithfully, SYLVIA SAYER, Cator, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, Devon.

Refugees' contribution

From Mr Bernard Denvir Sir, The second leader in your issue of August 20 was a worthy and finely expressed tribute to a man of great gifts and distinction, Nikolaus Fevger is dead, and his death has diminished all of us, though his legacy remains for our delectation. He was one of a large number of men and women who, coming to Britain as refugees in the 1930s, have made a contribution to British life and culture comparable to, but far greater than, that of the Huguenots in the seventeenth century. Overcoming enormous obstacles, not all of which ceased to exist when they left Germany, they displayed immense courage, intellectual energy of the highest order, and a deep sense of moral probity. Yet no serious attempt has been made, either in books, on television or on radio, to assess this phenomenon as a coherent whole, to chronicle it in an accessible format, nor to record the personal reactions of those who participated in it. The death of Sir Nikolaus is a cogent reminder that it will soon be too late to achieve at least one part of such an undertaking. Yours &c, BERNARD DENVIR, 85 Knatchbull Road, SE5.

Paid jobs for all

From Professor P. R. G. Layard Sir, Alan Eden-Green (August 3) has advocated work-sharing as a solution to the unemployment problem. The basic fallacy in this approach is that it is inflationary. Anything which reduces unemployment adds to inflationary pressure. This is true whether the extra jobs are created by expanding the demand for output, or by holding output constant and spreading the work over more people. It may well be that we should accept a higher level of inflationary pressure - I believe that we should, while containing the pressure by an incomes policy. But the key question then is: should we expand the demand for output, or should we hold output constant and spread the work over more people. The lesson of "grassroot" opinion is important. Had the Church of England and the Methodists listened to it the two churches would have been united ten years ago to the now agreed immense benefits of both bodies. Had grassroot conviction been followed after the happy and significant papal visit, we should already be enjoying some fruits of Christian unity. As it is, the political unity of Liberals and Social Democrats and the religious unity of Anglicans and others is postponed indefinitely because the leaders in each case cannot agree. How long is this impasse in the common life of our community to go on? When will leaders in both state and church learn the lesson? Yours faithfully, ROBIN WOODS, Torse End House, Trilley, Gloucester, August 16.

At the grassroots

From the Right Reverend Robin Woods Sir, "Grassroots mergers" figure in your headline story for August 16. May the hope be expressed that the merger of ordinary constituents within the Liberal and Social Democratic parties may be consistently encouraged? Nothing is more necessary, at present, to Parliament than a competent and united "her Majesty's" opposition on a truly democratic basis. This, the merger might well provide. Yours faithfully, MARTIN GILBERT, Marton College, Oxford, August 19.

Commandos in Greece

From Mr Martin Gilbert Sir, May I use the courtesy of your correspondence column to right a wrong? In a letter to his son in June, 1941, Winston Churchill wrote of 60 British soldiers who surrendered (as he expressed it) "in droves, and came out of caves with their hands up like a lot of ridiculous loons." This comment was published in volume six of the Churchill biography, together with a footnote, for which I alone am responsible, identifying these troops as those involved in the attack on the Italian Dodecanese island of Castellorizo four months earlier. Evidence which I have now seen (and ought to have sought earlier) makes it clear that no such surrender took place on Castellorizo, and that the bravery of the unit involved, 50 Middle East Commando, was considerable. Whichever episode Churchill was

Truth in advertising

From Mr Basil Boothroyd Sir, Your correspondent (August 20) reporting 10 proclaimed chemical additives in his iced bun is right to infer that the British palate has become blunted. It's too late to do anything about that now, but he quotes the mystery ingredients in coded form, meaningless to the lay consumer. We don't even know what's doing the blunting. Across the Atlantic, as so often, they are in the lead here. The "Orange Juice" button on the refreshment dispenser in my Cleveland, Ohio, hotel room, produced a can labelled "Imitation Citrus-Flavoured Artificially-Sweetened Dietary Carbonated Beverage". At least the American palate knows what it's getting. Yours sincerely, BASIL BOOTHROYD, Peckers, Church Street, Cuckfield, Sussex, August 22.

Body and mind

From Dr Patrick Pietroni Sir, I have only recently returned from holiday and read the three articles published (Spectrum, August 8, 9 and 10) together with your leading article (August 10) and the subsequent correspondence. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brian Inglis and Ruth West and add some personal observations. Holistic medicine is not just about alternative medicine - I have met many alternative practitioners who are not in the least holistic, treating their clients as objects to whom "things are done". Similarly, I have met many surgeons who, I believe, practise "whole person" medicine. Holistic medicine is indeed about "whole-person" medicine, but its strength and vitality lie in the fact that it incorporates into its map of the "whole person" the more recent and up-to-date scientific discoveries that have up to till now been disregarded by the majority of traditionally trained doctors. These discoveries that enhance our understanding of how we function as human beings include: 1. Psycho-physiological mechanisms of stress.

Political contributions

From Mr Paul Tyler Sir, If Mr Tebbit's proposals for corporate contributions to the parties are to be truly equitable then shareholders should be given the individual right to opt out of any political levy imposed - whether forced upon or not - by their company. Moreover, investment trust and pension fund managers should be required to poll their beneficiaries before casting a vote for a political contribution, and to facilitate a similar "contract out" arrangement for any dissenting minority. Yours etc, PAUL TYLER, Trevrove House, Rilla Mill, Collington, Cornwall.

Heisenberg in 1922

Heisenberg in 1922 demonstrated the impossibility of such an ideal, and yet the acme of Western medical thinking is still the "double blind controlled study". Medical scientists need to take on board what has been apparent to many of their Nobel Prize winning colleagues - "exactness never really existed" and "consciousness matters". The British Holistic Medical Association is holding its launching conference on September 24-25, 1983. We hope to provide a forum for further discussion of these crucial issues and create an opportunity for a serious and systematic attempt to bring about a marriage of both old and new approaches to healing. We have taken as our motto "Physician, heal thyself", and hope we can begin to redress the imbalance and current dis-ease in British medicine. Yours sincerely, PATRICK C. PIETRONI (Senior Lecturer in General Practice, St Mary's Hospital Medical School), Chairman-elect, The British Holistic Medical Association, 23 Harley House, Marylebone Road, NW1, August 15.

Yours faithfully

Yours faithfully, BASIL BOOTHROYD, Peckers, Church Street, Cuckfield, Sussex, August 22.

THE ARTS

Holly Hill reports on the first musical hit of the Broadway season Exotic birds in a gilded cage

La Cage aux folles Palace, New York

La Cage aux folles may be about homosexuals, but emotionally it is the straightest new musical to open on Broadway in years.

Based upon Jean Poiret's long-running French play, which also inspired the film of the same name, Harvey Fierstein's book advances the thesis of his Tony-award-winning Torch Song Trilogy - that people of different sexual preferences live-and-let-live - with his distinctive voice and more disciplined craft.

Owner and master of ceremonies of La Cage au folles at St Tropez nightspot which features a drag show, Georges (Gene Barry) has lived happily in a homosexual marriage with his star and transvestite "wife" Albin (George Hearn).

have raised the son of Georges's one heterosexual encounter, Jean-Michel (John Weiner), who wants to marry a girl of priggish parentage and is concerned to present a traditional family image. In the madcap scramble variously to disguise, rationalize and finally recognize Albin, the marital and parental bonds are refreshed and deepened.

The story is framed by numbers at La Cage featuring "Les Cagelles", a chorus of 10 men in drag and - just to keep the audience guessing - two women. For these extravagant, Theoni V. Aldredge (costumes), David Mitchell (sets) and Jules Fisher (lighting) spin their palettes with giddy abandon and come up with displays of curtains changing colour and outfits ranging - in the opening number alone - from satiny capes thrown off to reveal art deco lounging pyjamas thrown off to show pink and purple sailor dresses and 12 pairs of chorine legs.

garbed as exotic birds and, later, like sanctified daffodils got up for Ascot.

Scenes offstage at La Cage and in other locales advance the action while revealing character. In "A Little More Mascara" we watch Albin don his nightclub make-up and costume as he sings about what dressing in drag does for his self-esteem: "By rouging the other cheek... I can cope again. There's hope again".

There is no blockbuster title song from the creator of Hello, Dolly and Mame; here Mr Herman has channelled his strengths into ballads, and he, Mr Fierstein and the director Arthur Laurents know just how to use them to broadest effect.

outraged parents. Loveliest of all is "Song on the Sand" - Georges's tribute to his youthful attraction and lasting love for his partner. The show's sensational song is Albin's Act I finale, which brings the audience to its feet with the sentiment "Your life is sham/Until you can shout 'I am what I am'".

There are disappointments in the show. The meeting between the prospective in-laws drags until Albin jollies everyone with a song, and the choreography by Scott Salmon is dull. The staging of the musical numbers - with chorines riding trapezes, sliding down bars, tapping and somersaulting and can-canning - almost masks the unimaginative nature of the actual steps, but one longs in vain for even one number where dance is glorified.

Holly Hill



Gene Barry (left) and George Hearn: delighting with humour, touching with humanity

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Seriousness imbued with all the fun of the fair

Die Zauberflöte Playhouse

There have been mutterings in Edinburgh about the need for the Festival to import the Hamburg State Opera's Magic Flute when Scottish Opera is newly possessed of a widely liked production of its own.

Played on, around and underneath a tatty canvas-coloured platform, this is a production full of stunts. Sarastro, magnificently sung by Robert Lloyd as

a late substitution, is a 20-foot giant revealed behind curtains when he has to be. So much for him. Monostatos and his cronies are blue meenies with white boots and helmets. The Queen of the Night is another figure of grotesque stationary enormity, Tamino a boy dandy who has stepped out of a silent film romance in his smart sailor suit and gym shoes.

Best of all, Papageno is a baggy-trousered clown who comes swinging in on a rope a couple of times, and who, by the simple expedient of a carrot false nose, is rescued from all the usual sentimentality. Papageno as the common man is a character who rapidly slips into the maudlin. Papageno as a clown is something else: sympathy is held at bay by nuances of alarm and scorn. So at least it is in this splendid performance by Mikael Melbye, who behind his clown make-up can sing with complete and easy naturalness.

however, go further. In the first place, it

is quite simply a stunning piece of theatre. Working as his own designer, Mr Freyer takes nothing for granted and leaves his audience with never a dull moment. But that is not necessarily a positive merit after all, he could have done the same thing with La traviata or The Flying Dutchman. A circus presentation of The Magic Flute, however, seems to return it importantly to its origins in a theatre of low vulgarity, one where comedy is mixed with the crude and the dangerous.

At the same time this is a very thoughtful performance, and out of its thoughtfulness comes at the end, strangely enough, a confluence of ideas with Dr Miller. As the final peasant ends, so Tamino wakes as if from a dream. The cast and chorus have been shut behind a gauze; he realizes he is excluded, and for a moment he is dejected. But then he smiles and skips off. Thank goodness, he seems to be saying, life is not like that.

But thank goodness opera performances can be. One measure of the success of Mr Freyer's production is the extent to which it has won an individual enthusiasm and corporate zip from the cast: everyone appears relaxed and released to give of his or her best, while the ensemble work is as light as a circus demand. Rüdiger Wöhlers is a Tamino who is strong, young and direct, and needs no frills. Helen Donath as Pamina similarly avoids giving star turns, though perhaps this is achieved as much by her unpleasant costume, making her look like Snow White's step-mother, as by her vocal straightforwardness.

There are also resourceful trios of ladies and boys, and the opera is conducted with seriousness but no hint of pomposity by Christoph von Dohnányi. It will all be set in motion again tonight and on Saturday.

Paul Griffiths

221B Church Hill Theatre

I doubt whether the reading public would have taken Sherlock Holmes to its heart without the help of Watson, that rock-solid embodiment of bovine British decency whose friendship guarantees Holmes as a good chap, despite all the mountebank intellectual evidence to the contrary.

Set after Holmes's disappearance into the Reichenbach Falls, it introduces Watson as a lonely widower paying an elegiac trip to 221B for a last look round the old place, which is now up for sale. Nigel Stock shuffles in proprietorially, removes the dust sheet from his favourite chair and relaxes amid the familiar clutter of Pamela Howard's set. Memories drift back as he scans The Times obituary, and before long he is inspecting Holmes's chemical table, fondling the Stradivarius and uncovering an Action Man-like replica of his old friend, seated at his desk. And, as he reminisces on Holmes's educational shortcomings and tendency to brag,

Watson also starts taking on a new role as the Baker Street Boswell, whose account of Holmes's cases have made him known to the world. At this point the play hits a rock. It starts with the shared game of treating Holmes and Watson as real people with real biographies and leads you to expect a memory play. But, once the opening flourishes are over, there is nothing for memory to feed on but fiction.

Thus, with an audible gear-change, Mr Read moves from a study of their characters into a series of thumbnail re-enactments of their adventures. Doorbells ring, issuing in invisible visitors. Mr Stock gets busy turning himself into a

Spanish beauty, a Scottish housekeeper and Lesirade of the Yard; and it says much for his technique that Watson remains clearly in view throughout these transformations.

The fatal ventilator lights up for "The Speckled Band"; the whole set goes into an illuminated downpour for Holmes's tryst with Moriarty; and Mr Stock is fitfully seen circling the stage with a dark lantern, and climbing over the furniture, in his escape from the Hampstead burglary.

If there is any actor alive who could pull it off, Mr Stock is the man; but apart from the indestructible appeal of the stories themselves, the enter-

prise becomes increasingly pointless. Watson originally dropped in for a private reverie; so why is he now patently putting on a show for an audience?

Jack Emery's production at least popularises the stage with a sense of unselfish life, and extracts some wonderful rapid timing from Mr Stock, simultaneously offering himself a cocaine needle and recoiling from it. Also, some of the original contrast between truth and fiction does survive, as in Holmes's querulous objection to the illustrations in Watson's books: "Do I look like a man who would wear a deerstalker hat?"

Irving Wardle

Dance The mark of class New York City Ballet Covent Garden

The second programme of New York City Ballet's visit to London on Tuesday introduced two further new works with one known favourite. Balanchine's Mozartiana, which opened the programme, is a disconcerting work, not in the least what one might expect, but it has about it the marks of greatness which should become easier to follow as we get used to the piece.



Scintillating ease: Suzanne Farrell and Ib Andersen in Mozartiana

the stage from start to finish of his music, to irrepressibly joyous effect.

The longest section, the Theme and Variations, brings back Farrell, joined by the company's latest Danish star, Ib Andersen, for a duet followed by several solo pieces, an ensemble bringing in the four tall young women who have previously danced a pretty Menuet, and another duet to finish. This sequence is full of the most amazing invention,

nor enhance each other by contrast or similarity. The music is a selection of Tchaikovsky's piano pieces written at different periods of his career, most of which will be unfamiliar to concert-goers, although some will be known to balletomanes from other contexts.

Andersen is featured also in several entries in the other new work, Piano Pieces, and although from Robbins's choreography makes effective use of his speed, lightness and gift for intricate movement, it suffers by seeming just more of the same. Also, Robbins's work is an anthology of tiny cameos, which neither develop a theme

lent a heightened intimacy to the intense dialogue of this music. Indeed, its many shades of melancholy seemed more than usually acute. Exactly 150 years later in the same tradition, another concerto, Berg's for violin, also benefited from the comparatively modest size of the ensemble. Curiously enough, it was the reduced body of strings (in comparison with a normal symphony orchestra) that ap-

peitism where the formula is merely knees bend, arm out, solemn expression, eyes up.

Robbins's skill as a showman is more in evidence during the solos, duets and one trio, a flirtation polka for Andersen with two enchanting young women, Antonia Francheschi and Melinda Roy. Heather Watts has the best of the choreography, a solo like a muted Verdy in Dances at a Gathering; but mentioning that earlier, greater example of Robbins's way with piano music only draws attention to a dependence on heavy emoting or bold final flourishes to grab applause in the present work.

Both those new works come from New York City Ballet's 1981 Tchaikovsky Festival, and the evening's final work is a legacy of their 1973 Stravinsky Festival, Symphony in Three Movements. In this, Balanchine's choreography gives the soloists harsh, twisted movements to match the score, and sets a large corps de ballet swirling around them in great circles.

What a pity it is that so many of the expensive seats at Covent Garden, being at or below stage level, hide the marvellous floor patterns. During this season, patrons in the balcony or amphitheatre definitely have best view. Still, the splendid dancing can be enjoyed from any angle, as also the musical performances (Robert Irving again conducting, and Jerry Zimmerman as the solo pianist).

John Percival

Sinfonietta/Rattle Queen Elizabeth Hall

H. K. Gruber's Charivari is described as "an Austrian journal for orchestra", and it might have provided a pleasingly irrelevant start. The performance under Simon Rattle was lively enough, but the piece's basic material, the main phrase of Strauss's "Perpetuum Mobile", is, of course, scarcely

worthy of reverence. Eventually the mask of jollity slips, and although a trumpet quotation of "Wiener Blut" which contemporary music's normally compulsory unhappy ending might almost be avoided.

The London Sinfonietta is relatively small, yet Emanuel Ax, the soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto, K453, dominated less than might have been expected. His evident full membership of the ensemble

peared to darken this score's continuous introspection, which give rise to a Caribbeian folk-song as well as a Bach chorale, were shaped with the finest discrimination by Young Uck Kim, the soloist, and the whole Sinfonietta. This interpretation was a fine achievement in the midst of a busy festival. The concert's novelty was Oliver Knussen's Music for a

Puppet Court, which had its first performance. Subtitled "puzzle pieces for two chamber orchestras", this derives from puzzle canons by the sixteenth-century British composer John Lloyd, and at first evokes that distant period. Soon, however, a resourcefully discontinuous, even humorous, antiphonal use is being made of the quite differently instrumentated pair of orchestras.

Max Harrison

Television

Effective touch of affection

"I am a toucher", said Sister Antonia Brenner, explaining that everyone needed the odd pat. The sister, walking round the Mexican jail she has taken under her wing for the last five years, was as good as her word and the prisoners responded with enthusiasm. Watching and talking to the nun about her rehabilitation work was Dr Miriam Stoppard who, we were told in Yorkshire's Where There's Life last night, had been able to reach the part of the Mexican prison system that countless others had failed to reach.

This Tijuana jail houses some 1,200 men and 50 women, there for misdemeanours ranging from theft to murder. The last governor's view of prison life has been rather severe and somebody had shot him. His successor had, as seemed desirable in the circumstances, different ideas. He encouraged prisoners to see their families

and even have them stay a while, believing that being locked away from society was punishment enough.

He brought in Sister Brenner to help. The prisoners move around freely, working or not, as they choose. The matronly Sister Brenner regards all as her children and her affectionate techniques and the governor's liberalism seem to work. Over the years, the number of prisoners returning has diminished. A plastic surgeon visits the prison regularly to remove unsightly scars and tattoos so that prisoners can face the world looking as well as feeling different. The sister, he confessed, had roped him in over a dinner.

Unfortunately, the programme's format, which covers several items in its short space, was deemed too sacrosanct to jettison one in the cause of a more complete picture. The

prison film was preceded by an item in which people, among them the "television personality" Paula Yates, talked about why they had dyed their hair.

Mama had dyed her blonde because she feared that otherwise she might look like Bruce Forsyth. As she talked a group of people with extraordinary scaples looked on waiting for the verbal touch of Dr Stoppard. Not all got the opportunity though a young man with a lurid head did manage to explain that it had been more so when he dyed it blue for Christmas.

This intrusion prevented Dr Stoppard from making the most of her scoop and explaining, for instance, how Sister Brenner - who it appears had an earlier career as a wife and mother of six - came to her present vocation.

Dennis Hackett

Promenade Concert

BBCSO/Wand Albert Hall/Radio 3

The German conductor Günter Wand on Tuesday made one of his extremely rare appearances as chief guest conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra: the rediscovery here of this remarkable musician, now over 70, will be a major benefit to the orchestra if he can be persuaded to give more concerts as cogent and impressive as this one.

White-haired, slightly hunched, Wand moved little during the Mozart "Posthorn" Serenade which filled the first half of the concert. But his body gently swayed with the rhythms, his baton crisply marked out a supple but firm pulse and the smallest whisk of the left hand had a galvanizing effect.

This was so illuminating to watch that I fear I may have heard the performance Wand was conducting rather than the one the players played. Though there were some wiry string passages which obtruded, the wind had an excellent evening, particularly in the two concertante movements in the middle which feature pairs of oboes, flutes and bassoons: to hear such amiable music so beautifully turned was a pleasure

which even the surprisingly mellifluous chording of the posthorn itself in the second minuet could not surpass.

In the second half there was Brahms's First Symphony, and it was clear from the first massive thwack that Wand would adopt here a quite different scale of expressiveness. But, though the baton flailed and the left hand urged on the music with passionate intensity, there was still the same fundamental economy of approach and the same firm rhythmic unanimity.

Indeed, Wand's account was chiefly notable for some astonishing decisions about tempo: a very slow coda for the first

movement, magnificently sustaining the tension, another long rallentando at the end of the third movement and - most electrifying - a last movement Allegro which simply and brazenly doubled the tempo of the famous Andante melody.

Brahms's own "posthorn" motif, which he first heard in Switzerland, was just one phrase among many which sprang resonantly from the orchestra. Whatever the minor untidinesses and flaws in the playing they were swept aside by the tremendous grip and well-directed power of Wand's conducting.

Nicholas Kenyon

The GLC Presents WAR AND PEACE At the Royal Festival Hall A film by Sergei Bondarchuk Russian colour version with English dialogue. 29 August 1983 at 2pm Admission £4.00 Box office: 01-928 3191

riverside studios THE SOUL OF A JEW The Last Night of Otto Weininger

ADVERTISEMENT MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MONKEYS... and other animals is nowhere more evident than in the world's research laboratories. According to Home Office Statistics: 5,654 primates were used in experiments "calculated to inflict pain" in Great Britain during 1982. Dogs, mice, rabbits, rats, birds, guinea-pigs and cats were among over 4,000,000 other animals subjected to experimentation in British laboratories last year. In some of the worst cases animals were burned, scalded, infected with diseases, poisoned in toxicity tests, given electric shocks and forced to inhale toxic substances. We need your help to end this barbaric method of research. The National Anti-Vivisection Society Limited (Dept T) 51 Harley Street, London, W1N 1DD. Please send me further information about the work of the NAVS. I enclose a donation of £10.00. Please make cheques/P.O. payable to The National Anti-Vivisection Society Limited. Name (Mr/Ms/Miss) Address (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

IMI for building products, heat exchange, drainage, special-purpose valves, general engineering, refined and wrought metals. IMI plc, Birmingham, England

Forecasts of a 7 1/2 per cent inflation rate by the end of next year and gloomy prognosis for the economy by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research contributed to the stock market's downward spiral yesterday.

Shareholders fear 1984

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

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Although not as sharp as Tuesday's fall was enough to prevent buyers re-entering the market. By the close prices had begun to come off the bottom but demand was slight.

The FT 30 index had been nine points down at lunch, but managed to regain some ground to show a 7.4 fall by the close at 716.6.

The trade figures made little impression on the market where gilt-edged stocks recorded losses of 3/8. Index-linked stocks bucked the trend showing gains of 1/2 making a two-day surge of more than 1%.

Fear of higher inflation rates are likely to add to the index-linked stocks' attraction. The sector presently offers real returns over inflation of 3 per cent at the long end to four per cent at the short end.

Brokers Wood, Mackenzie's 'aggressive buy' recommendation for the Danish pharmaceutical group Novo Industries has been vindicated.

Losses among leading equities ranged between 2p to 7p. Tuesday's big loser, Glaxo, slumped again yesterday before bargain hunters.

London Brick's decision not to pursue Istock Johnson helped the shares 3p to 80p. Good profit figures and hopes that London Brick may itself now be subject to a bid

also supported the price. Istock Johnson's share price fell 5p to 159p. The Government's proposed tighter controls for the use of asbestos hit the shares of Turner and Newall, Britain's major asbestos manufacturers, down

5p to 60p and Cape Industries, 7p lower at 150p. Hopes that British Printing and Communication Corporation will have to increase its offer terms for games maker John Waddington pushed the shares 16p higher to 261.

BPC, down 4p at 106p, has extended the closing date until Friday. It needs only another 230,000 Waddington shares to give it control.

Burton Stores eased 9p to 322p in a weaker stores sector despite rumours of Burton's attempting an acquisition of the Richard Shops and John Collier chain from Hanson Trust.

Insurance retreated 5p to 12p with Pearl 5p lower at 70p after its profit figures. Disappointment over Standard Chartered profits knocked the shares back 12p to 462p.

House of Fraser fell 4p to 228p on news of the investigation into Fraser shareholdings and Lomb's influence on the Harrods store owner.

Pritchard Services slipped another 4p to 134p following Tuesday's news of a rights issue and Spring Grove takeover.

Insurance retreated 5p to 12p with Pearl 5p lower at 70p after its profit figures. Disappointment over Standard Chartered profits knocked the shares back 12p to 462p.

RECENT ISSUES: Accounts Group 25p Oct (115d), Almond Machine Tools 2 1/2p Oct (115d), Broomfield 10p Oct (115d), etc.

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مكتبات الأمل

حکومت الراحل

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 718.6 down 7.4 FT 100: 79.63 down 0.4 FT All Share: 454.52 down 4.55

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5190 down 1 cent Index 85.6 down 0.1 DM 4.01 down 0.0150 FF 12.0775 up 0.0375 Yen 370.25 down 1.75

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10 Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/4

TODAY

Interests: Bath and Portland (amended), BBA, Bensons Crisps, Blue Circle Inds., Britoil, BSR, Carpets Int., Greenwich Cable Communications, Highlands and Lowlands, House Property Co. of London, Lec. Refrigeration, Needlers, Refuge Assurance, Scottish Agricultural, Scottish Inv. Tst. (third quarter), Yorkshire Chemicals.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Delmer Group, Manor Royal, Crawley, W. Sussex (10.00) Electric & General Investment, 26 Finsbury Square, EC2 (12.30)

Changes to accounts pave way for part-privatization

British Nuclear Fuels sell-off in sight, says chairman

British Nuclear Fuels the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, could be a candidate for partial privatization in two years, Mr Con Allday, the chairman, said yesterday.

Atomic Energy Authority and other bodies. As a result, for the first time BNFL's accounts have not been qualified by its accountants.

Most of the orders come from Japan under a controversial but lucrative contract which figured largely in the Windscale public inquiry some years ago. Another \$600m worth of orders are for fuel enrichment.

The balance sheet shows BNFL had £145m of shareholders' funds against debts of £252.7m, deferred liabilities of £327.7m and government grants (treated as credits) of £89.1m.

New talks open on \$90bn Brazil debt

Brazil's bankers began key talks in New York yesterday aimed at finding a solution to the worsening liquidity problems of the world's biggest debtor. The country owes an estimated \$90bn (£59bn).



Smith: 'We need to know what caused the breakdown'

JBE talks failure worries MP

The Labour Party's energy spokesman wants the Government to take an interest in the future of John Brown Engineering after the announcement that the proposed \$30m sale of the company to Hawker Siddeley has fallen through.

London Brick opts out of Istock bid

London Brick has decided not to renew its bid for the smaller brickmaker, Istock, Johnstone, of Leicester, despite clearance from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last week.

Dow Jones recovers after slide

New York (AP) - Dow Jones - Stocks recovered again yesterday after slipping back to lower territory. An earlier recovery attempt failed to make much headway.

Unit trust sales beat record

Booming stock markets have encouraged investors to put money into unit trusts in a big way with more units sold during the first seven months of this year than during the whole of 1982 - itself a record year.

Norcross bid puts high value on UBM

Norcross yesterday unfavourably compared UBM's recent profits record with its own in its offer document for the builders' merchant company for which it has made a £64m bid.

Boots set for US trading

Boots is poised to become the latest British company to be traded in the US in the form of American Depository Receipts (ADRs).

WALL STREET

about 7-to-5. trading was moderate. Dupont was 51 1/4, up 1/4; Allied Corp 50 1/8, off 3/8; International Business Machines 118 5/8, off 7/8; General Motors 67 3/8, up 3/8; Aluminia Co. of America off 3/8; Westinghouse 42 1/2, up 5/8; Exxon 38 1/4, off 1/8; and Lockheed 109 1/8, down 2 7/8.

Victor of takeover battle starts selling assets

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which won a £660m takeover battle for Thomas Tilling group two months ago, has begun to sell the group's assets.

BTR puts Tilling HQ up for sale

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which won a £660m takeover battle for Thomas Tilling group two months ago, has begun to sell the group's assets.

BPCC may clinch £18m bid today

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of the British Printing & Communication Corporation, hopes to announce today that he has clinched the £18m takeover of John Waddington, the Monopoly games company.

Memcom International Holdings Plc (Registered in England No. 1731539) Offer for Sale of 1,920,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each at 81p per share by AFCOR INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Memcom International Holdings Plc (Registered in England No. 1731539) Offer for Sale of 1,920,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each at 81p per share by AFCOR INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Memcom is now one of the leading companies capable of designing, supplying, implementing and servicing Electronic Filing Systems, a key area in the development of integrated office automation systems.

Crewe House, scene of Liberal Party functions

Liberal Party and society functions in the early 1900s and was occupied by the Department of Propaganda in Enemy Countries during the First World War. After his appointment as British Ambassador in France, the Marquess of Crewe returned to the house until Tilling bought it in 1937.

Crewe House, scene of Liberal Party functions

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Crewe House, scene of Liberal Party functions

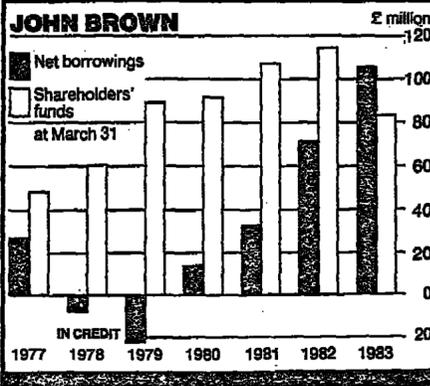
Liberal Party and society functions in the early 1900s and was occupied by the Department of Propaganda in Enemy Countries during the First World War. After his appointment as British Ambassador in France, the Marquess of Crewe returned to the house until Tilling bought it in 1937.

Floyd seeks £3m of new capital

By Jeremy Warner
Floyd Oil Participations called on shareholders yesterday for just over £3m of new capital by offering a rights issue of new shares at 82p each on the basis of two for every seven.

John Brown's future grows bleaker

If the future looked as if it would be bleak after John Brown's sale of its gas turbine division, it looks noticeably worse now that the proposed sale of the division to Hawker Siddeley has been called off.



Intl Thomson Organisation

International Thomson Organisation
Half-year to 30.6.83
Net profit £26.8m (£16.5m)
Stated earnings 19.1p (11.8p)
Turnover £87.0m (£80.2m)
Share price 620p

Fewer bad weather claims help Pearl

Fewer claims arising from bad weather in the first quarter helped Pearl Assurance to raise interim net profits from £5.24m to £7.01m.

Hawley earnings surge to £5.1m

The expected jump in half-time profits from Hawley Group, the last of a stream of figures from Mr Michael Ashcroft's companies this week, turned up on cue yesterday.

APPOINTMENTS

Guinness Peat Property Services: Sir Robert Lawton, part-time member of British Railways Board and chairman of British Rail Property Board, has joined the board.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Sandvik
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £4.5m (£4.5m)
Turnover £491.8m (£413m)
Dura Mill
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £3.792 (£3.559)
Stated earnings 1.57p (6.87p)
Net dividend 0.6p (same)

Problem division under control says Blagden

Blagden Industries, the steel drums, plastics and chemicals manufacturing company, yesterday reported a 12.5 per cent increase in pretax profits to £1.2m in the six months to June 26.

Dividend up as Rotork profit slips

First half profits of the engineers Rotork slipped slightly to £1.57m, but a boosted interim dividend of 1.75p is being recommended to reduce disparity between the interim and arrival payments.

David Crouch figures slide to new low

Half year pretax profits reported yesterday by Derek Crouch, the open cast mining and construction company, fell to a new low of £177,000, compared with last year's first half of £414,000.

Hartlepool advertisement with logo and contact information for E. Hurley M.B.E. Industrial Development Officer.

Base Lending Rates table listing interest rates for various banks and services.

COMMODITIES table listing prices for various goods like sugar, cocoa, and oil.

WALL STREET table listing stock market data and company names.

Improved trading and performance reflected in substantial increase in interim dividend

Interim profits up by 36%

Table showing Unaudited Consolidated Results on the Historic Cost Accounting Basis for 6 months to 30 June '83 and 31 Dec '82.

In the first half of 1983 profit before tax was 36% up on the equivalent period of 1982. Demand for bricks produced by London Brick products is buoyant.

Advertisement for T-LEASE TOKYO LEASING (U.K.) LIMITED, featuring an image of an airplane and text about leasing packages.

Privatization - 3: Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent, on problems facing the Government

Why rolling back the state frontiers is so tortuous

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor and former Energy Minister, has shown that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth. Yet selling off British Gas's oil assets has been a slow process with the opposition of the board and its chairman, Sir Denis Rooke, right.



take three or even four terms of office before the Government - despite the present stepping up of its privatization - can finally boast of success in its efforts (as it sees them) to bring the nationalized industries to book.

'Even favoured state chiefs resisted some sell-offs'

legal and political obstacles as well as false leads and the occasional decisive intervention of external circumstances.

few now doubt that they would have saved an enormous amount of time and trouble but at the time nobody could foresee the present conditions of oil glut, falling prices and Opec disarray.

In the event, it was not until last year that Mr Lawson was able to get his Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act on the statute book, opening the way for the sale of Britoil and the British Gas North Sea assets. This was after ministers and officials had wasted months exploring alternative ways of privatizing the corporation, including the idea of a free hand out of BNOC bonds to all taxpayers.

Unravelling then was a 'Promethean task', according to Mr David Howell, Mr Lawson's predecessor as energy secretary, and a man whose indecisiveness is held by many to have contributed to the slow rate of progress.

With British Gas's oil assets, on top of similar legal and contractual problems, the Government has had to contend with the unstinting opposition of the corporation's board

to the sale of either Wythch Farm or the North Sea assets.

Chairman, Sir Denis Rooke has repeatedly denied that the corporation is employing delaying tactics - but it is evident that as an unwilling seller it has not hurried things along.

This is one reason why the Department of Energy has adopted the otherwise unlikely tactic of setting up its own oil company to hold British Gas's North Sea assets. It wants to make sure that it controls the disposal itself rather than risk leaving it to the corporation.

In fact, opposition from state industry chairmen is one of the toughest obstacles the Government claims to have faced in its privatization campaign.

Even favoured chairmen such as Sir Michael Edwards at BL and Sir Robert Atkinson of British Shipbuilders have resisted attempts to sell off their profitable operations in favour of the long-term benefits of preserving integrated corporations - a perfectly understandable tactic that has nevertheless effectively delayed the privatization process.

The Government has retaliated not only by appointing sympathetic state industry chairmen such as Lord King at British Airways to hurry through the privatization process, but also (in the case of Sir Walter Marshall at the CEBG for example) by setting them clear and publicly stated objectives of introducing private capital into their operations.

How far this succeeds in clearing the logjam remains to be seen.

The legislative and technical hurdles also remain, especially now that the relatively easy privatization candidates - such as Cable & Wireless which was already operated as a Companies Act company - have, by common consent, mostly been returned to the private sector already.

'Unravelling oil pacts was a Promethean task'

While the Government has powers to dispose of parts of BL, British Shipbuilders, British Steel and Rolls-Royce (and is pushing its British Telecom bill through Parliament again), it has still to find time for bills to privatize its second rank candidates such as the National Bus Company, the Royal Ordnance Factories and the British Airports Authority.

The more radical long-term aims favoured by some right-wing ideologues such as breaking up the coal board and the

electricity industry are even further away.

According to one closely involved Whitehall official, the average lead time for preparing a corporation for privatization is between two and three years - and that is assuming it does not run into delay caused by general elections or political and technical mishaps.

The need to settle on a suitable capital structure can lead to protracted and bitter argument, as happened over Britoil, for example, while establishing suitable regulatory agencies for telecommunications or other natural monopolies such as gas and electricity can and does keep civil servants occupied for months.

In addition, the Government has to grapple with the market constraints of bringing a succession of large corporations to the stock market. Although the argument about crowding out is complex, it is clear that the British Telecom and British Airways issues will absorb more than half the funds investment institutions can spare for new equity investment over the next three to four years.

After Britoil and Amersham, ministers are acutely sensitive to the need to get the timing and pricing of issues right, although with the election out of the way this may be something that can afford to treat with greater aplomb.

Despite these constraints, the Government is clearly confident that it will be able to push through an accelerated programme of privatization in the next five years.

Apart from being four years further down the 'learning curve', Mr Lawson's experience with Britoil has shown - notwithstanding the peculiarities of the sprawling state oil asset portfolio - that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth.

Rightwing advocates of further plentiful doses of privatization continue to complain about the institutional obstacles to radical change, particularly in the Civil Service.

The Institute of Directors, for example, was exercised two years ago by the fact that privatization - while popular with the world at large, being held up by a few key enemies in key places.

They are concentrated not only in the Labour Party and among trade union officials but also at the 'Yes Minister' level of the Civil Service and in the media, where they have an influence out of proportion to their numbers', claimed an internal memo. Even the facts, it seems, conspire.

Financial notebook

Identity crisis of index-linked gilts

A secure, long-term investment is all very well and good for those seeking such protection, but for market operators interested primarily in a quick return the attraction will be rather less. So it is with index-linked gilts. Their performance over the two years since they were launched has prompted the abundant City cynics to suspect that the absence of a bull market to date means the absence of one in the future. Index-linking is dismissed as a failure.

Leaving aside for the moment the long-term argument, it must be true that a market which has not generated significant profits for traders is also likely to be a market which has won few friends among genuine investors. Last year, of course, was an anomalous mirage in the conventional gilts market, when the credit crunch, the soaring inflation which enthused the conventional market were had for stocks whose raison d'être was protection against inflationary ravages. It has not been, therefore, the fault of index-linking as such that profits in that market have been scarce.

But it does not follow that profits will always be hard to make in the index-linked market. Attention is frequently directed towards nominal interest rates, but that begs the question of how the market sees index-linked stock. Should an index-linked security be regarded as a taxed interest stock, or should it be compared with other investments which are supposed to retain their real capital value (property and gold are cited, somewhat dubiously)?

Obviously, index-linked gilts have qualities which set them apart from conventional government stock. Not only is the real value of the capital guaranteed, but the interest rate is real to the extent that it is tied to the inflation-adjusted capital value of the bond. What matters, however, is the implication that a real gilt return should be compared

with real interest rates, expressed as the long term nominal interest rate minus anticipated inflation.

Such rates, it can be argued, reflect the course of the real economy, whereas the nominal interest rates which set conventional gilt prices are chiefly at the moment a response to monetary phenomena. On the evidence of the past few months real long term interest rates are drifting upwards.

The circle is completed by the almost obsessive concern demonstrated by markets round the world for the state of the American money supply and Federal budget. A rise in nominal interest rates was expected for months and that superficially would be bad for all fixed interest securities. But what is important for index-linked securities is the relationship between the existing real interest rates and the redemption yield offered by the stock.

On the assumption of inflation running at 7 per cent redemption yields on the nine index-linked stocks in issue range from around 4 per cent for the 2 per cent I.L. 1988 to 5 per cent for the 2½ per cent I.L. 2016 yields on stocks due for redemption at the turn of the century are around £3.25. All other things being equal, the price of index-linked stock should start to go up when real long term interest rates fall towards these yields.

The catch, however, is that real rates may be declining because nominal rates are also falling in the way in which conventional gilt prices should rise with index-linked prices.

But there are two major differences: nominal rates and real rates will not move with equal speed if they are not responding to the same impulses; and index-linked gilts have shown themselves in their brief history to be much more volatile.

A bull market in index-linked stocks is, therefore, possible, but the complexities are such that the genuine long term investor might do as well to sit tight. Index-linked gilts are certainly gilt-edged in the sense that the capital is guaranteed by the Government, but in other respects they behave rather differently.

Michael Prest

Table with multiple columns containing financial data, including 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' and various company listings with their respective values and shares.

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Cricket: Essex gain momentum while Middlesex again flag

Gooch and McEwan in no mood to waste fine work of Essex bowlers

By Peter Ball COLCHESTER: Essex with six first innings wickets in hand, lead Worcestershire by 180 runs. Essex's charge at the top of the county championship continues to gain momentum. Yesterday the pattern of their second match of the Colchester festival week followed that of the first almost irresistibly, as they had again taken a stranglehold by the end of the first day.

Even the main characters were the same. Phillip took six wickets as he and Lever bowled unchanged to skittle Worcestershire out for 84. In the evening it was McEwan's turn as he again reached an unbeaten century, his eighth of the season, almost nonchalantly savaging the bowling in partnership with Gooch.

They ensured that the advantage their bowlers had given them would not be wasted. Worcestershire's problems began the moment they lost the toss and were asked to bat under heavy cloud, the sultry, hazy atmosphere providing perfect conditions for the swing of Lever and Phillip, who, in their current mood, do not need much help.



By the right: the left-handed Barlow who hit his fourth 100 of the season.

Dull and dismal day despite breaking two British records

Events on the third day of the European championships in Rome took place under a completely overcast sky with intermittent drizzle, a dull but entirely suitable setting for what proved to be a dismal day for Britain. Only Jackie Williamson, Sarah Hardcastle and Christopher Snodce reached the final, and although none of them was expected to challenge for a gold medal, Miss Williamson's best form looked good enough to guarantee her a lower place on the podium.

By the left: the right-handed Gooch who hit his second 100 of the season.

Payne takes the pleasure out of the balm from Barlow's bat

By Marcus Williams UNIVERSITY secretary, playing his second championship match as deputy for the injured Slack, Miller looked a well-organized batsman in an opening stand of 91 before being judiciously chopping a straight ball from Needham and being off-stump in the forty-second over.

before he tried to turn the ball to the on-side, and Barlow held at deep square leg as he tried to hook Clarke for the second four in an over. He had batted for 245 minutes, hitting 15 fours in addition to the six.

Ellis, of the same alma mater (Hillsbury and St Edmund Hall) as Miller, got his head down and restrained his natural instincts by scoring 11 runs in the final 85 minutes. He had useful support from Williams and James.

Clift puts an end to fretting

By Richard Streeton FOLKSTONE: Kent, with seven first innings wickets in hand, are 93 minutes ahead of Somerset. Batsmen looked easy throughout an overcast, gloomy day. The adjacent Downs were blurred by sea fogs and a cold wind off the Channel made an anorak and a car essential.

Getting a shock on reaching the ground

By Alan Gibson BOURNEOUTH: Hampshire with three wickets in hand, are 125 runs ahead of Somerset. I am afraid I did not arrive at the ground until just about one o'clock. After some travelling misadventures (which had nothing to do with Didcot), I noticed at once that there was a large crowd enjoying the sunshine, and thought how pleasant was the scene. Then I glanced at the board: Somerset were 68 for eight.

Marshall, though he had some trouble with his run up (seven no balls), took seven for 29, his best figures of the season. Somerset played a weakened side, partly to give the senior men a rest - the NatWest final is much on their minds - partly to give some youngsters more experience. Still Marshall must have taken a lot of playing on such a pitch, by anybody.

No stopping Kallicharran

By Peter Marson Edgobaston: Warwickshire have scored 296 for four against Sussex. Warwickshire's continuing interest in the upper echelons of the county championships coincides with the continuing success of Alvin Kallicharran. He has been chipping away at a rich seam in runs just recently, and his 100 yesterday was the 14th in his last seven innings, which have produced 591 runs.

At that time, not much had gone the way of Sussex. By lunch when Warwickshire had picked their way to 94 for two in 39 overs, Barlow had repeatedly shuffled his pack of bowlers as he searched in vain for a suitable solution. When at length Sussex did break through, it was by way of a poor stroke by Lloyd, who fell to a catch behind off Leaver.

Later, when Barlow made one of his seven changes in pace and direction a ball from Pigot hurried through low down to rap Smith's front pad, and with 36 overs gone, the wicket fell to the second success of Sussex, and their last until Amis had been rounded up. By then, Warwickshire had taken their score on by another 135 runs in 41 overs.

Yorkshire rally led by Sharp

SCARBOROUGH: Yorkshire scored 333 in their first innings against Gloucestershire. Yorkshire fought back from a poor start to boost their hopes of a first home win of the summer against Gloucestershire yesterday. In the opening 17 overs, David Gravett, won the toss, put the home side in, and quickly reduced them to 69 for three, including the prized wicket of Boycott for 25. But a sharp rally led by captain, David Sharp (73) and Baines (57) rescued the innings.

England's short measure

From Sydney Friskin Amsterdam England have never lost to France in 34 meetings, they have achieved 30 victories although a cloud hangs over the 1920 fixture in Antwerp, during the Olympic Games when England were awarded the victory because France failed to appear. England went on to win the gold medal.

Attack is Swansea's best defence

By Nicholas Harting Swansea City... FC Magdeburg... There was a farcical prelude to this European Cup Winners' Cup tie as Swansea's players, having lined up for the Welsh National anthem, resumed their kick-in before Land of My Fathers had even finished. The Germans, on the other hand, resolutely stood their ground waiting for their anthem which never came.

Miller's grasp loosened by Simmons' century

BLACKPOOL: Derbyshire, all wickets standing, are 309 runs behind Lancashire. Lancashire hit their second championship century of the season against Derbyshire at Blackpool yesterday. Lancashire were struggling at 150 for five, with Geoff Miller taking advantage of a slow turning wicket, when Simmons went in to turn things his way.

The 42-year-old all-rounder got the mark with a six, completed by 50 with another and finished unbeaten on 101, having steered Lancashire to a formidable 315 for nine declared.

Larkins hits out

NORTHAMPTON: Glamorgan, with nine first innings wickets in hand, are 250 runs behind Northamptonshire. Wayne Larkins hit more than half his side's runs with his third century of the summer as Glamorgan bowled Northants out for 134 in 94.5 overs. The former England opener took four hours to make 145, including one six and 18 fours, after, his captain, had won the toss and elected to bat in awkward, overcast conditions.

Today's fixtures

Fourth Test match (11.10 to 5.10) TRENTOUR: England v New Zealand County Championship (11.10 to 8.30) COLCHESTER: Hampshire v Somerset FOLKSTONE: Kent v Leicestershire BLACKPOOL: Lancashire v Derbyshire LEICESTERSHIRE: Warwickshire v Gloucestershire NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Glamorgan

Australian lead under threat

FENNERS: National Association of Young Cricketers, with seven first innings wickets in hand, are 21 runs behind Australia Young Cricketers. Australia were bowled out for 175 in 45.3 overs yesterday. Put in to bat in the penultimate match of their tour, the Australians were rallied by the last wicket pair, Hammett and 47.

Football

Swansea City... FC Magdeburg... There was a farcical prelude to this European Cup Winners' Cup tie as Swansea's players, having lined up for the Welsh National anthem, resumed their kick-in before Land of My Fathers had even finished. The Germans, on the other hand, resolutely stood their ground waiting for their anthem which never came.

Other sport

CHROUCH: at Northern championship (Dunrobin, Edinburgh and Southwick) DUNROBIN: British women's speedway championship (at Mooroway) Scottish championship (at Dalrymple, Midlothian).

Other sport

CHROUCH: at Northern championship (Dunrobin, Edinburgh and Southwick) DUNROBIN: British women's speedway championship (at Mooroway) Scottish championship (at Dalrymple, Midlothian).



Pan-American Games: the beginning of the end of steroids?

Drug net that none can escape is tightening round the Olympics

Caracas (Reuter) - The introduction of new, stricter dope testing which has led to 11 weightlifting medalists from nine countries being stripped of their titles at the Pan American Games has wide implications for next year's Los Angeles Olympics.

A West German team using the most sophisticated equipment ever seen at a big international sports meeting are responsible for dope-testing here and United States officials say the same methods will be used at the Olympics.

According to the Canadian team doctor, Jack Taunton, scientific advances in detection techniques mean that drug-taking athletes who would previously have passed dope tests will now be caught.

Four weightlifters were disqualified on Tuesday for taking banned strength-building drugs and a Chilean cyclist also failed a test during a preliminary round, according to his team chief.

Thirteen United States track athletes suddenly flew home without competing, only two of them giving an explanation. Randy Williams, the long jumper, said he wanted to be with his wife, who had just given birth to their child, and Paul Bishop said he objected to the food and facilities at the Games, he said the decision by the Americans to leave at the same time was a coincidence.

A United States delegation statement said: "their individual decisions to withdraw should not be taken as an implication of guilt or interpreted in any similar manner." It condemned the use of banned drugs by athletes.

The chemicals most commonly used illegally to enhance an athlete's performance are anabolic steroids, which are similar to male hormones. Steroids were found in sportsmen and women as long ago as the mid-1960s but sports authorities did not make a serious attempt to stop their use until the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Since then they have fought a running battle with dishonest sportsmen and trainers, who constantly find new ways to avoid detection. With the new techniques, Dr Taunton says the authorities are now much better placed to catch the drug takers.

"If an athlete has been talking



Stripped of their medals: Namezard Blanco, of Cuba, and Greavette, of Canada.

anabolic steroids within the past 90 days they can now be detected," he said.

If the drug is injected into fat tissues to dissolve slowly and be effective over a longer period it could possibly be detected after an even longer period. Dr Taunton warned: "If any athlete wants to compete in Los Angeles and is taking drugs, he'd better stop now."

The Cologne-based dope-testing team at the Pan-American Games has apparently caught many weightlifters by surprise with the effectiveness of its methods using a gas chromatograph and mass spectrometer.

Not all weightlifters at the Games were given dope tests but of those that were the organizers listed 11 as having traces of steroids or other illegal substances in their urine.

All were stripped of their medals and will face sanctions from the International Weightlifting Federation or other international sports authorities. Daniel Nunez, of Cuba, also lost the world snatch record he set on August 16.

The fact that nine nationalities were involved - lifters from Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, United States and Venezuela - indicates how widespread the practice has apparently become.

Some sports officials say many athletes in other disciplines use steroids without being caught and Dr Taunton said he would not be surprised if some track and field athletes in the Pan-American village

were guilty. "Certainly the atmosphere in the village is one of enhanced concern over this whole issue, to say the least," he said.

Dr Taunton said he hoped the affair would serve as a warning to athletes, adding: "I hope I'm not being naive but I would like to think that this is the beginning of the eradication of drugs in sport."

Steroids, apart from helping build up muscle tissue, give their users a big psychological boost, he said; but they are also medically dangerous and lead to increased risk of liver disease, heart failure and sterility in men.

In the past athletes stopped using them about eight weeks before a big competition and escaped discovery by switching to an artificial form of male hormone testosterone to keep

up the effects and increase their aggression.

LOS ANGELES - Dr Tony Daly, vice-president for medical services of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, said: "New medical equipment means anabolic steroids, which strengthen muscles, can be detected four months after they have been used. Athletes had previously been able to use the steroids only three weeks before a competition without being picked up."

It was doubtful, he added, whether athletes who had failed to pass drug tests at the Pan-American Games would be able to compete in the Los Angeles Games as amateur federations usually imposed a ban of at least a year for drug use and the Games were less than a year away.

US affected by altitude

Caracas (Reuter) - The American swimming team have won all but four gold medals at the Pan-American Games here and set three world records in sprint events.

But they might have performed even better if the altitude of the venue had not hindered their longer-distance swimmers.

The swimming events were held at the United Nations Park pool, which is more than 2,500ft above sea-level. According to the United States' chief coach, Trevor Tiffany, long distance swimmers would be unable to start quickly because they would then have difficulty getting enough oxygen.

The American women - like the long-distance swimmers - never

came remotely close to a world record, though this partly reflects the strength of the East German women. Tracy Caulkins, for example, was more than 15 seconds adrift of the 400 metres individual medley record.

Success came, however, in the men's sprints. Steve Lundquist, aged 22, took silver in the 100 metres freestyle, a world record of 51.99sec. In the 200 metres freestyle, he had set only 1.11 days ago, a world record of 1:52.28sec. On Sunday, Rick Carey, aged 20, had broken his own 100 metres backstroke record for the third time in just over two weeks with a time of 55.19sec.

Sales and Marketing Appointments

SENIOR SALES MANAGERS. A leading car importer is building a small team of really top people to operate and control a national network of first class dealers. Forget all ideas of stratified management this is a job individualists who enjoy making the right decisions.

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Export Manager. An expanding subsidiary of an established export trading company based in Hong Kong and Singapore invites applications from young people to increase market penetration and to expand customer base in Africa and the Near East.

CHEMRING PLC. Fratton Industrial Trading Estate. Portsmouth PO4 8BX. Require EXPORT SALES MANAGER. Experienced in dealing at Senior level with Overseas Government departments and Agents.

Considering a change of career? A HIGH INCOME. You will earn over £22,000 in your first year with us if you meet basic targets. Our better consultants earn over £18,000 p.a.

Media Appointments. The Art Gallery of Western Australia. Curator of Paintings. The Art Gallery is calling for applications for the above vacant position. Qualifications: University degree or an approved equivalent tertiary qualification, with expert knowledge of the History of Art and the relevant area.

International Appointments. COURSE ORGANISER AND LECTURER. PUBLIC ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT. JAMAICA. A specialist instructor is needed immediately for a two-year course in Public Enterprise Management.

POSITION AVAILABLE in book-keeping and office work. Salary £10,000 with excellent benefits. Full-time position, 40 hours per week. Apply to: Mrs. J. M. Jones, 123 Main Street, London W1C 1AA.

Banking and Accountancy Appointments

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT. For a rapidly expanding International Trading Company. Fully qualified and experienced Accountant for International Trading Group.

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TENNIS

Nastase's Open reprieve

Jericho, New York (Reuter) - Ilie Nastase has appealed against an \$8,500 fine and suspension of 47 days imposed on him by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council last weekend. The appeal will be heard after the United States Open tournament which begins next week, and the Romanian will therefore be eligible to take part in the Open.

The suspension, which applies only to grand prix tournaments, was handed out to Nastase following disputes over line calls in a tournament at Snow, Vermont. He admitted that he broke his racket by hitting it against the ground in a match against Danny Saltz which he lost. "I hit the racket on the ground like so many other guys do," he said. "I didn't mean to break it. McEnroe hits his racket, but the No. 1 guy can get away with it."

ATLANTA: Handed Cup Davis's tournament: V Van Patten (US) in St Davids (US), 6-4, 6-4; J Higginson (NZ) in Melbourne (AUS), 6-4, 6-3; C Lewis (NZ) in St Davids (US), 6-4, 6-4. MAINTENANCE: New Jersey Virginia Slims Open: First round (US series staged): C Reynolds in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; J. P. Collins in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 2nd round: R. Williams in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; D. B. G. in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 3rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 4th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 5th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 6th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 7th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 8th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 9th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 10th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 11th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 12th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 13th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 14th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 15th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 16th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 17th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 18th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 19th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 20th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 21st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 22nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 23rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 24th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 25th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 26th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 27th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 28th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 29th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 30th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 31st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 32nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 33rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 34th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 35th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 36th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 37th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 38th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 39th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 40th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 41st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 42nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 43rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 44th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 45th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 46th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 47th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 48th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 49th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 50th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 51st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 52nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 53rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 54th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 55th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 56th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 57th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 58th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 59th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 60th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 61st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 62nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 63rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 64th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 65th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 66th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 67th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 68th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 69th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 70th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 71st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 72nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 73rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 74th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 75th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 76th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 77th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 78th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 79th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 80th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 81st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 82nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 83rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 84th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 85th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 86th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 87th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 88th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 89th round: S. 6-2; W. 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Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 120th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 121st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 122nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 123rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 124th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 125th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 126th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 127th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 128th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 129th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 130th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 131st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 132nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 133rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 134th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. 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Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 180th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 181st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 182nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 183rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 184th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 185th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 186th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 187th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 188th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 189th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 190th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 191st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 192nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 193rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 194th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 195th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 196th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 197th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 198th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 199th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 200th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 201st round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 202nd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 203rd round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 204th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 205th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 206th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 207th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 208th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. Pierce (AUS), 6-4, 6-4; S. 209th round: S. 6-2; W. White in Ft. 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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

How to run your own show - buy out the boss

Starting your own business has been in vogue for the last few years. The idea is fine in theory, but putting it into practice is exceptionally demanding.

Corinne Julius on one way of becoming your own employer

financial and sales directors and often the production manager. There are normally two or three prime movers, with perhaps the backing of up to six other colleagues.

Ripe to buy

There are generally three types of company susceptible to a buy out. Firstly there is the family company, run by a group of professional managers for several years while members of the family have held non-executive positions.

The second type of company ripe for a management buy out is the subsidiary that was bought as part of a merger between two large groups and which does not fit into the new holding company strategy for development.

So, what are the steps to take in being your own boss? After having thought about the viability of buying out a company and making it a success, consider the pressure on yourself and your family.

The problem is to get as much support and commitment from colleagues as possible without making the moves too openly.

A favourite source of financial advice is ICFE, the world's largest source of private venture capital, with 18 area offices around the UK. However, there are other sources, such as merchant banks, or perhaps advice from the specialist section of your own bank.

At the same time a business plan has to be prepared to put before potential backers. It should include information on the company, the customers, suppliers, management structure and financial information.

The backer will want to know why the company is for sale and you as an existing manager will usually have a good idea of whether there are any skeletons lurking in the cupboard.

Lurking skeletons

existing manager will usually have a good idea of whether there are any skeletons lurking in the cupboard. If the project seems viable your backers are likely to continue.

The backer should help you develop a strategy and a detailed plan of how to approach the vendor.

well as working out ways to make the deal attractive to the vendor, your backer should help you to negotiate on matters that will affect the long-term future of the company and the ease with which it can be run.

Deals on management buy outs can go through in as little as two days with a willing vendor, but the average is around six months.

If your negotiations are successful, the pressure is just starting. Previously you may have had extended back-up but now the decisions are yours and yours alone.

The pressure is on

greater satisfaction, but it also means greater worry and tension about the results of your decisions.

Your new role can also affect working relationships, although buy outs there has tended to be a honeymoon period of up to 12 months between staff and management, by which time you should have gained your confidence.

Some of the biggest tensions can come from your family. They may have become used to a certain lifestyle and status. For them the change can be traumatic, so it is essential to discuss all the implications of the deal with them from the start.

In personal terms both the financial and psychological rewards of running your own show are great, and the success rate of management buy outs is high and more than justifies the pressures involved in trying to be your own boss.

Educational Courses

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CHUSID. We are also specialists in 'placement' for graduates, through our affiliated company Land Corporate Services Limited.

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Doe tells why he wants to stop Gaddafi

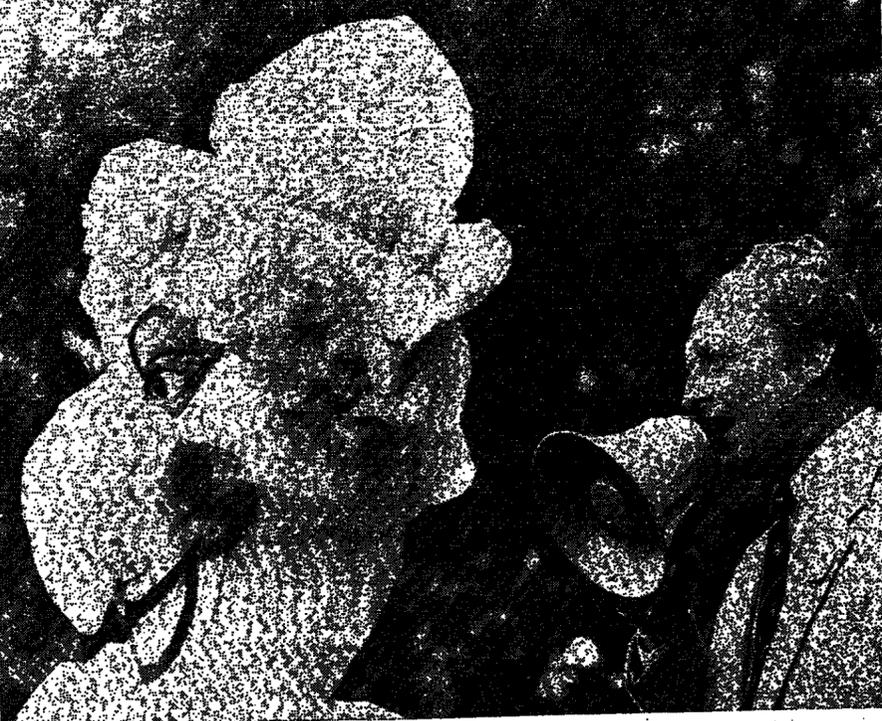
From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

General Samuel Doe, the Liberian President who was this week flown by Israeli jets from the obscurity of Monrovia to the Holy Land, has announced plans for a political initiative against Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, whom he accused of plotting his assassination.

"Gaddafi is a man who would like to lead the whole continent of Africa, which is impossible to do, but he still uses his natural resources to buy arms, ammunition, and to spread explosives", he said in an interview with The Times.

"We will do our best politically to sabotage his operations in the region", he added. The general said that evidence had been uncovered that the Libyan leader had inspired an assassination attempt against him in 1981, a year after he came to power in a violent coup.

He said that the ringleader, Major-General Thomas Wehseyan his former second in command had been found subjected to "the due process of the law". Later explained by an aid to mean execution by firing squad.



Punch and Judy fight cuts in arts

The Government was accused yesterday of being "honeyeater and phillistine" for cutting money to the arts, at a demonstration accompanied by a larger-than-life Punch and Judy.

Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

The Sunday Times assumed the union would back Mr Meacher, the New Statesman assumed, the union, which voted for Mr Healey in 1981, would back Mr Hattersley.

Mounting terror in Pakistan

Continued from page 1 roads were blocked by protesters outside rural towns. In Dadu and Larkana - both scenes of recent violence - councillors elected to the local municipality yesterday all resigned to protest against the continuation of the martial law.

Letter from Etna Town lives up to volcano's example

The rebellious giant buried under Etna has stopped his snorting and nothing more menacing remains for the moment than a thin stream of grey smoke as if Etna, the giant of the legend, was lying back to enjoy a quiet cigarette.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Information service section containing: Today's events, Royal engagements, New exhibitions, The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,217, New books - paperback, Roads, Cheaper calls, Anniversaries, The pound, The papers, Weather, and High tides.

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